THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Drama.

No. 2720. SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1879. PRICE THREEPENCE REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER

SPECIAL NOTICE.—The NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY, South Kensington, will be OPEN to the Public on FRIDAY, December 26, between the hours of Ten and Four. At all other times the Gallery is strictly CLOSED on FRIDAYS for Cleaning and Alterations, but open FREE all the rest of the Week.
By order, GEORGE SCHARF, Keeper and Secretary.

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Botany—Rev. G. Henslow, M.A., Christ's Coll., Camb., Lecturer on Botany to the Hospital.
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The following are the Dates at which the several EXAMINATIONS in the UNIVERSITY of LONDON for the Year 1880 will commence:—

Matriculation.—Monday, January 12, and Monday, June 21.
Bachelor of Arts.—First B.A., Monday, July 19; Second B.A., Monday, October 25.
Master of Arts.—Branch I., Monday, June 7; Branch II., Monday, June 14; Branch III., Monday, June 21.
Doctor of Literature.—First D.Lit., Monday, June 7; Second D.Lit., Tuesday, December 7.
Scriptural Examinations.—Tuesday, November 23.
Bachelor of Science.—First B.Sc., Monday, July 19; Second B.Sc., Monday, October 18.
Doctor of Science.—Within the first twenty-one days of June.
Bachelor of Laws.—First LL.B., Second LL.B., Monday, January 5.
Doctor of Laws.—Thursday, January 15.
Bachelor of Medicine.—Preliminary Scientific, Monday, July 19; First M.B., Monday, July 26; Second M.B., Monday, November 1.
Bachelor of Surgery.—Tuesday, November 23.
Master in Surgery.—Monday, November 22.
Doctor of Medicine.—Monday, November 22.
Subjects relating to Public Health.—Monday, December 13.
Bachelor of Music.—First B.Mus., Monday, December 13; Second B.Mus., Monday, December 20.
Doctor of Music.—First D.Mus., Monday, December 13.

The Regulations relating to the above Examinations and Degrees may be obtained on application to the REGISTRAR of the University of London, Burlington Gardens, London, W.

December 9, 1879. ARTHUR MILMAN, M.A., Registrar.

UNIVERSITY HIGHER LOCAL EXAMINATIONS.—A LENDING LIBRARY, for the Use of Candidates for the above Examinations, has been established by the WOMEN'S EDUCATION UNION. Annual Subscription, 10s. 6d.—Prospectuses can be obtained from the SECRETARY, 1, Queen-street, Brompton, S.W.

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The Professors of Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, and Biology (including Botany and Zoology) will be the first appointed.

The appointments will be made for a term of three years, renewable at the pleasure of the Trustees. The stipend in each case will be 250l. per annum, with half the class fees. The Trustees guarantee that each Professor's share of the class fees for the first three years shall be 100l. per annum.

Applications from Candidates must be forwarded, not later than the 31st of DECEMBER NEXT, to the Honorary Secretary to the Trustees, Mr. G. J. JOHNSON, 38, Waterloo-street, Birmingham, from whom any further information may be obtained.

By a resolution of the Trustees, Candidates are specially requested to abstain from canvassing.

The appointments will be made solely on the merits of the Candidates, as appearing by their testimonials and references.

MILL HILL SCHOOL, MIDDLESEX, N.W.—LENT TERM, 1880, will commence on MONDAY, January 19, 1880, at SIX P.M.—Applications for admission, or information, to be addressed to the Head Master, R. F. WEYMOUTH, Esq., D. Lit.

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1879.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Herbert Spencer on Ceremonies	755
Reid's Sketches of Politicians	756
A Commentary on the New Testament	757
Two Books on South Africa	758
Novels of the Week...	759
Christmas Books	760
Library Table—List of New Books	761—762
'Julius Cæsar'; Notes from Oxford; The Eikon Basilike; Dr. Laing's Library	762—764
Literary Gossip	764
Science—Library Table; M. J. B. Alphonse Chevallier; Societies; Meetings; Gossip ...	766—768
Fine Arts—The Society of Painters in Water Colours; Sir W. Boxall, R.A.; Excavations at Olympia; Gossip	768—770
Music—Sacred Harmonic Society; Crystal Palace Concerts; Gossip	771
Drama—Gossip	772

LITERATURE

Ceremonial Institutions. Being Part IV. of the 'Principles of Sociology.' By Herbert Spencer. (Williams & Norgate.)

Mr. Spencer's new volume is a kind of expansion of a text in George Chapman's 'Hero and Leander.' After Leander's first midnight visit to Hero, Chapman feigns him to have had a sense of the wrong he did in dispensing with the nuptial ceremony:

> Came down
> The godless Ceremony, with a crown
> Of all the stars, and Heaven with her descended;
> Her flaming hair to her bright feet extended,
> Whereby hung all the bench of deities,
> And in a chain, compact of ears and eyes,
> She led Religion.....
> She beat back Barbarism and Avarice
> That followed, eating earth and excrement
> And human limbs, and would make proud ascent
> To seats of gods, were Ceremony slain.

Mr. Spencer, who does not quote Chapman, fills nearly two hundred and fifty pages with a statement of Chapman's theory in Spencerian terminology:—

"We must say that the earliest kind of government, the most general kind of government, and the government which is ever spontaneously recommencing, is the government of ceremonial observance."

Upon ceremonial government hangs "political, religious, and social control," or, as Chapman says, "the bench of deities," "Religion," "Morality and Comeliness." It is Mr. Spencer's object, however, to get "to the back of" Chapman's theory, to discover the origin, trace the evolution, and foresee the future of "ceremonial institutions."

It must be confessed that Mr. Spencer seems to have expended labour out of all proportion to the value of his results, and ingenuity greatly in excess of the truth of his conclusions. What the results of his investigations are we shall attempt to explain as shortly as possible. Ceremonies are prior to social, and even to human, evolution. The little dog that falls on his back and holds up his paws when he meets a big dog is performing a propitiatory ceremony. He is as good as saying to the big dog, "Don't bite a dog when he is down; bite one of your own weight." Now the majority, the immense majority, of human ceremonies are relics of a similar process of propitiation. The savage who rolls on his back and slaps his thighs to welcome a visitor is not many stages in advance of the little dog. The lady who kisses the Queen's hand when she is presented is carrying out the practice of the cow who licks her calf. The calf is licked because that process gives the cow a pleasant sense of possession in her offspring. From licking, kissing, or sniffing as an agreeable and affectionate process came the custom of licking, kissing, or sniffing as a sign of affection, and so of propitiation of a superior, who naturally likes to be liked, and of that propitiation the ceremony of kissing the Queen's hand is a survival. Mr. Spencer traces a vast number of other ceremonies to acts of propitiation. He keeps insisting that men naturally transfer services that propitiate the living to the propitiation of the ghosts of the dead, that the ghosts become gods, and that in this way the religious ceremonies of Christianity and of other creeds are all connected in the long run with the timid little dog and his prostrations. He also observes that a military society has been the most exacting of ceremonies, so that ceremonies decline as industrial societies gain ground, till Quakers object to ceremony altogether, and coal-miners and factory hands are deficient in common politeness. Here, then, are the results of Mr. Spencer's industry broadly stated. Are they quite worth the trouble they have cost him? Is it not, and has it not always been, acknowledged that ceremonies are an important form of human expression, and a useful assistance to the growth of society? Is it not a truism that the forms of reverence due to gods and great men are confused, so that even Burns calls the Macallum More "the Lord their God, his Grace"? And is it not also an accepted fact that as society becomes more clearly conscious of itself and its purposes, it lays less stress on forms and ceremonies?

So far as this volume goes, Mr. Spencer adds little or nothing to our knowledge of that most interesting topic, the development of government and of social control. It is a general truth, he says, that "ceremonial forms are naturally initiated by the relation of conqueror and conquered." But we do not know that all forms of sway originated in conquest, and we must now show that Mr. Spencer constantly gives a forced and non-natural account of ceremonies, with the purpose of proving that they were originally forms of propitiation, or badges of victory and defeat. It is our contention that, even in the lowest forms of human society, there are numberless laws and regulations made by some social authority which it is hard to trace to conquest; that ceremonies are not "government," but part of the machinery of government; and that Mr. Spencer is mistaken in his ingenious attempts to deduce many of the ceremonies in his book from signs of conquest or forms of propitiation. For example, Mr. Spencer (p. 211) says:—

"In primitive headless groups of men such customs as regulate conduct form but a small aggregate. A few naturally prompted actions on meeting strangers, in certain cases bodily mutilations, and some interdicts on foods monopolized by adult men constitute a brief code."

Now, on p. 4, Mr. Spencer says that "no ruling agency beyond that arising from personal superiority characterizes a horde of Australians." Let us take the Australians (whom Mr. Spencer supposes to have possibly sunk from a higher civilization) as an example of the defects of his method. The defects are double, or even treble. First, the Australians (or rather some tribes, for we might as well speak at large and vaguely of "the Europeans") have far other "ruling agencies" than those "rising from personal superiority," if by "superiority" strength, courage, and cunning are meant. Secondly, their "code" is the very reverse of "brief," or "confined to ceremonial regulations." Thirdly, their "mutilations" are by no means certainly derived from the origin suggested by Mr. Spencer.

1. An Australian community is really very like the English state:—

"The government of aboriginal tribes is not a democracy. There are the doctors, or sorcerers, who, under some circumstances, have supreme power; there are the warriors, who, in time of trouble, are absolute masters; there are the dreamers, who direct or control the movements of the tribe;.....there are the old men—councillors—without whose advice even the warriors are slow to move; and finally there are the old women, who *noisily intimate their designs*, and endeavour by clamour and threats to influence the leaders of the tribe."—'The Aborigines of Australia,' by R. Brough Smyth, i. 127.

Here we have the clergy (medicine men and dreamers), the army and navy (warriors), parliament (old men—councillors), and the newspapers as expressive of public opinion ("old women who noisily intimate their designs"). "The government of a tribe," says Mr. Brough Smyth, "might well serve as a model to peoples claiming to be civilized." Here, then, is abundance of authority not derived from mere strength, cunning, or courage, and wielded (under constitutional checks) by "the principal man of the tribe" (Brough Smyth, p. 127).

2. The Australian "code" (like that of the New Caledonians and most other savages known to us) is the very reverse of "brief." The marriage laws alone are "enough to puzzle a mathematician," and offences against them are punished by death. The ritual of burial (in New Caledonia) is astonishingly complex, and, at bottom, is connected with sanitary rules. The customs of women are not less complex and the rules not less stringent; and they, too, are probably sanitary in origin. The discipline of a hunting or fishing party is extraordinarily strict and full of singular rules. The land laws (if we may call them laws) are stringent and well understood. The blood feud is equally minute and strict in its regulations. In short, it is hard to know where to stop in the demonstration that "such customs as regulate conduct" do *not* form "but a small aggregate" in the least advanced societies with which we are acquainted. But then we confess that we know absolutely nothing of "primitive headless groups of men," concerning whom Mr. Spencer is speaking. No living men are primitive; we doubt if any, even Eskimo or Fuegians, are quite "headless"; and all have large bodies of understood custom bequeathed by we know not what ancestors or legislators.

3. We have shown, we hope, that the Australians are not without government, and that their code is neither brief nor all made up of ceremony. Now for their "bodily mutilations." We must give some space to Mr. Spencer's theory of mutilations,

because it is a good example of his eagerness to trace all manner of effects to the one cause of propitiation of the victor, or mark imposed by the victor on the vanquished. He starts from the practice of mutilating the dead, the amputated part being the trophy of the victor. Thus Turks, Israelites, Montenegrins, Dyaks, Finns, Red Indians, and other savages have cut off heads, scalps, foreskins, and so forth as trophies. Let a race begin to give quarter and use its captives as slaves; the conquerors will still want their trophies, so they will snip off some portion of the luckless prisoner, without disqualifying him for labour, and this mutilation will be a sign of subjection, and will be inflicted on children born to the race. Hence circumcision. Mr. Spencer even appears to believe that castration of prisoners is derived from trophy-taking, though there are such obvious practical reasons for the custom among most Eastern peoples. Let the subjection be subjection to the dead, and you have all the mutilations commonly performed at burials. And here Mr. Spencer glances off in a very curious way into a subject of which he is hardly master, that of totemism. Cuttings of the face are inflicted to propitiate a living or dead superior. Cuttings make scars, scars may as well be ornamental as not, and hence comes tattooing, especially the tattooing of blazons, to which we may trace European heraldry. Is there any proof that ornamental tattooing is done to propitiate gods or ghosts? Do tattooed races not gash themselves at random as a sign of grief? Are there not races which gash themselves, but never tattoo themselves? Lastly—but we do not see why we should make Mr. Spencer a present of the secret of Mr. M'Lennan and of the origin of totemism. It is one of which his writings show him to have little inkling. If anything were wanting to prove this, it would be the statement (p. 158):—

"We may reasonably conclude that from animal names thus given to kings there resulted the animal names anciently given as names of honour to deities, so that Apis in Egypt became an equivalent for Osiris and the sun."

It is at least as probable that an early bull-totem became a bull-god, and continued to be held in honour after the rise of elementary, or solar, or more abstract deities, and to be identified with the new dynasties of heaven.

The above may seem a long and wandering paragraph, but it is Mr. Spencer's cloud of smoke that has led us into the desert. It is he who connects the gashing of the face to propitiate the dead with tattooing, tattooing with blazonry, and so with the heraldry of totemism, and thus opens that difficult topic. To return to mutilations. Mr. Spencer believes that the initiatory tortures of savages, as of Red Men and Australians, were not at first meant to test endurance, but "originated from the habit of making scars artificially, in imitation of scars bequeathed by battle." Is there any proof of the universality of that practice? Seriously, Mr. Spencer only brings forward one or, at the outside, two examples of it, while the painful initiatory rites of Australia and America were so widely spread that they left their mark in the ritual of the Dionysiac mysteries. Again, these voluntary tortures are not confined to the inflictions of scars. The boys stare at the sun till the pain is unendurable, they starve, they are bedaubed all over with filth. Mr. Brough Smyth enumerates seven ages at which seven different mutilations are performed. The flogging of Spartan boys at the altar of Diana is a similar example of tests of endurance. But Mr. Spencer says dogmatically, "Primitive men, improvident in all ways, never devised or instituted a usage with a view to a foreseen distant benefit." Once more it must be said we know nothing about "primitive" men; the savages we know are not "primitive," nor can we tell in what condition they were when they adopted painful initiatory rites. The whole theory is a deduction of almost universal application from examples given in p. 75, and only one or two of these prove the fact, even in single instances.

To sum up this criticism of Mr. Spencer's book, the general results are neither very novel nor very important, while the writer does not always display a thoroughly historical sense. Authorities like Bancroft are too freely quoted, for Bancroft's work is not the most scientific of compilations from sources of various value. "Primitive man," that hypothetical creature, is written about as if Mr. Spencer knew him at home; institutions are traced to improbable origins (as when "morning calls" are derived from visits of homage); and Mr. Spencer seems unaware of the difficulty of the problem of the growth of government. Who made the vast and various regulations that are diligently obeyed by the most savage races, or how did they grow? what authority promulgated the laws of marriage and of the blood feud? Perhaps the questions here suggested will never be answered. Mr. Spencer is so far from answering them that, among "small loose groups, without political or social regulation," he introduces a mention of the Samoan "Parliament" (*sic*), wherein a speaker "must go over the names, titles, and a host of ancestral references" of the audience. And this in "a small loose group, without political or religious regulation."

We have been obliged almost constantly to differ from Mr. Spencer, as is not unnatural in the present state of prehistoric science. But his book is of great and continuous interest, and his suggestions may easily recommend themselves more to other students than to ourselves.

Politicians of To-day: a Series of Personal Sketches. By T. Wemyss Reid. 2 vols. (Griffith & Farran.)

As it is the fashion now for newspapers to enliven their columns with articles as full as possible of spicy personalities about prominent men and women, it is at any rate desirable that some who cater for the public taste in this matter should aim, as Mr. Reid says he has aimed, "to be just to all and ungenerous to none," and in that endeavour should not attempt "to rival those graphic writers who have made it their business to describe, for the benefit of the outer world, the clothes or the tricks of speech and gesture of living politicians." Mr. Reid has not quite succeeded in carrying out his good intentions in the series of sketches which he has now reprinted from a provincial journal. Towards the men he admires he is just and generous enough, and of some of them, like Mr. Joseph Cowen and Mr. Thomas Burt, he manages, without any bad taste, to give vigorous portraits in words which will be really instructive to his readers. He forgets himself, however, when he is speaking of men like Mr. Chamberlain and Sir William Harcourt, whom he dislikes, though it must be admitted that Sir Robert Peel is the only one whom he goes far out of his way to make fun of, on account of his "clothes, or tricks of speech and gesture." Sir Robert Peel may deserve all Mr. Reid's abuse, but sneers at his "big, bluff figure," and his "high-coloured if not positively bloated features," not to repeat some much more obnoxious phrases in Mr. Reid's chapter, are out of place in a book that professes only to define the position held by public men in their relations with politics. The licence Mr. Reid has occasionally allowed himself in dealing with yet more conspicuous men, like Lord Beaconsfield and Lord Salisbury, is less objectionable, seeing that about such eminent Tories, as also about Liberals as eminent as Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Bright, it was not possible for him to say much that has not been often said before.

No one, of course, will expect much originality in a work like this, and it is high praise to say, as we are glad we can say, that Mr. Reid's volumes are readable and instructive. He necessarily labours under the disadvantage of having to travel over ground already well trodden; but this may not be regarded as a serious objection by his readers, and he has certainly put as much novelty into his work as he could. It was doubtless with this object that in his gathering of thirty portraits he has found room not only for the Queen and the Prince of Wales, but also for the *Times* and *Punch*, and for three politicians out of England, M. Gambetta, Prince Bismarck, and Prince Gortschakoff.

These three foreign portraits are rather oddly distributed over the book. Gambetta is placed between Lord Beaconsfield and Mr. Gladstone; Bismarck prevents Sir Charles Dilke and Lord Salisbury from being in too close contact; and Gortschakoff separates *Punch*—"the veteran jester to whom no one can deny a place among the political powers of our time"—from Sir Wilfrid Lawson, with whom Mr. Reid is extremely angry, on account of "those dismal jokes with which he peppers his speeches in Parliament." Nor are the foreign sketches themselves of much value. The chapter on M. Gambetta is chiefly important as publishing the fact that Mr. Reid has listened to his oratory and considers him the prince of speakers—in the matter of voice at any rate:—

"I have heard the voices of many great orators in my time. I have often listened to Bright before he betrayed that huskiness of tone which now distresses him whenever he speaks. Many a time have I sat entranced whilst the mellow, rounded, and most melodious tones of Gladstone have rung clear and high above the din of stormy factions in the House of Commons. I have heard Spurgeon at his best, letting every man in his vast Tabernacle hear each syllable as it fell from his lips. I remember, too, the mellifluous tones of Wilber-

force, and I am familiar with the silken accents of Coleridge. But never have I heard speech like that of M. Gambetta—never have I heard a voice of such compass, emphasis, flexibility, and power."

About Prince Bismarck Mr. Reid finds it difficult to speak seriously, being so much shocked by his vulgar appetite and the style of his "political diatribes," which "you would think the talk of an ignorant shopkeeper." He leaves his readers to choose, however, between two descriptions of him that are not quite harmonious—the one as "a strong, resolute, relentless, clear-sighted man, gifted with the precious quality of simplicity in thought and action, absolutely fearless, and absolutely free from conscientious scruples"; the other as "one of the last of that great race of Protestant Tory despots who have from time to time been so conspicuous in the world's affairs, but who will soon happily be numbered among the extinct races of mankind." The notice of Prince Gortschakoff is very slight, though, the Russian Chancellor being now more than eighty years old, Mr. Reid is probably correct in saying that "it is more than doubtful whether he will ever again be able to play the great part in Europe which was allotted to him between 1876 and 1878."

Mr. Reid has hardly improved his book by including the Queen and the Prince of Wales among his "politicians of to-day." The political functions and responsibilities of the sovereign and the heir to the throne are little understood by many, and a careful exposition of them would be useful. Mr. Reid, however, has not done much good by his few quotations from the late Mr. Bagehot, and in such an attempt as he has made to mix up constitutional maxims with references and allusions to the conduct of the first lady and the first gentleman in England, it was inevitable that he should incur the risk of being blamed on the one hand as a disrespectful critic, and on the other as too much of a courtier. Court jesters and court chaplains were formerly allowed to use plain words to royalty; but it may be doubted if good will come from Mr. Reid's zeal in stating facts and laying down rules which, as he says, "the Prince of Wales must bear in mind if he desires to hand down to his children unstained and unimpaired that splendid inheritance which at some future day will devolve upon him."

Of the twenty-three sketches of members of Parliament which Mr. Reid has included in his volumes, the most serviceable, if not the best, are those of less well-known men. It was impossible for him to say much that could be fresh about Lord Beaconsfield or Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Bright or Lord Salisbury; and his comments on such men only enable him to express his own political opinions, which, he says, are those of "a Liberal, with a firm belief in those great principles which secured to the Liberal party its long and splendid triumph between 1832 and 1874." Mr. Reid's Liberalism is somewhat cantankerous, and he can be more bitter against men of his own side like Mr. Edward Jenkins than he is against opponents like Mr. Chaplin; but the reader will easily make allowances for his evident bias, and, that done, may profit by the solid information which it does not spoil. Such a memoir as that of Mr. Thomas Burt is well worth having. Mr. Reid has a happy knack of placing in clear light the merits of the men whom he most honours; and this gives value to his notices even of men so well known as Lord Hartington and Mr. Forster. The longest and most carefully written chapter in the book is one on Lord Derby, chiefly designed to justify the action of Lord Salisbury's predecessor at the Foreign Office, and to prove him "a patriot who sacrificed himself and his prospects upon the altar of duty." Another chapter is on Mr. Roebuck, and fairly sets forth the good and bad qualities of the veteran who died the other day.

"There never in this world," says Mr. Reid, "was a better assailant of a job, a more resolute critic of administrative bungling, than John Arthur Roebuck. 'Dog Tear-'em,' as he christened himself on one memorable occasion, has never been slow to fly at the throat of minister or private member when the public interest seemed to demand vigorous action of this kind. The pity is that he himself should have suffered so grievously from the unrestrained indulgence of his vindictiveness, his jealousy, his morbid self-consciousness. A career which might have been a great one has been brought to nothing by his own faults, and talents which might have been successfully used for the advancement of many noble causes have been utterly wasted."

A New Testament Commentary for English Readers. By various Writers. Edited by C. J. Ellicott, D.D. 3 vols. (Cassell & Co.)

We should, perhaps, welcome the copious supply of new commentaries on the Scriptures as an evidence of increasing attention to records which will continue to be precious to man as long as his religious instincts are alive. But commentaries may be too plentiful, even in the opinion of those given to reading commentaries, and their very number may create a distaste for them, especially when it is seen how readily they can be manufactured to order. An archbishop or bishop has only to collect the names of several clergymen willing to write under his banner, and forthwith a publisher is found, advertisements of the important work appear, and it proceeds with steady pace to its accomplishment. The independence allowed the contributors naturally depends on the editor's doctrinal views and the taste of the public for whom the book is meant. If the writers belong to the Established Church, their exegesis will harmonize with the creeds; in other words, it will not run counter to ecclesiastical orthodoxy. Time-honoured doctrines will be received and upheld; heretical ones will be rejected. If, again, the writers belong to some of the sects, and acknowledge no episcopal chief, their comments will probably be Calvinistic in substance, since the vast majority of the people to whom they preach and for whom they write are accustomed to the good old dogmas with which the Puritans were content.

The volumes before us embody the separate commentaries of a dozen ecclesiastics, all belonging to the Anglican Church with but one exception. It is not easy to secure perfect unity of opinion among so many, but the one church and one faith keep them in mutual fellowship. The general preface claims for the work the title of a new commentary, because it meets new needs and supplies guidance amid newly developing difficulties. It is intended for two classes of readers—those who doubt the full authority of Scripture and would rejoice to have those doubts dissipated, and also those who doubt not, but desire more fully to realize and understand. The preface, which is sufficiently unctuous, is followed by an introduction on the books of the New Testament, the text, the English versions of it, the origin of the first three Gospels, the harmony of the Gospels, and a chronological harmony. Each separate book is furnished with its own introduction, and sometimes excursuses on special points are appended. The authorized version is printed in large type, and the notes to each chapter are subjoined.

It is natural to expect variety in the ability of the various contributors. Their knowledge, perception, exegetical tact, and critical faculty differ much. Some parts are more feebly treated than others. In general the introductions to the separate gospels or epistles are below the standard which they should have reached. That prefixed to the Gospel of St. John is rather elaborate, and there is more show of learning than usual. Yet the reasoning and results are unsatisfactory. The literature is not well given, and it is too apparent that the work is that of a compiler. Neither are the difficulties inherent in this Gospel itself properly solved. Thus chapter x. 8 is unsatisfactorily interpreted. But the English commentator may be excused in this instance, since Tholuck and De Wette are uncertain about the words, confessing their inability to reconcile them with the speaker's known disposition. It is curious to read the extracts from writers which are supplied in the introduction to this Gospel, and to find among them one which gives not the shadow of a proof for the opinion advocated, and which is heralded by the assertion, "the writer speaks with an authority shared by no living author." Various excursuses are appended to this Gospel, some of them good and well digested. This remark applies especially to that marked G, on the right rendering of the Greek word usually translated "Comforter." But the F excursus is incorrect. A writer who says that *παρασκευή* has nothing to do with any preparation for the Passover, and that the "preparation for the Passover" in John xix. 14 means no more than the "Passover Friday," cannot claim a patient hearing.

Every reader, on the other hand, will be pleased with the commentaries on the Epistles to the Romans and the second of St. Peter. The introductions prefixed to them and the interpretations of the text are fair specimens of exposition. The writers show an honest desire for the truth, and evince a freedom from conventional views which is not common. Yet it is strange that these two commentators have apologized for the want of sufficient time and maturer reflection. Possibly they might have done better if the pressure of publication had allowed, but they may well be commended for what they have done. Their main fault is that they hesitate too much, giving the two sides of a question without deciding firmly for one of them. Occasionally, on the other hand, they pronounce boldly in opposition to the facts of the case, as is done at the begin-

ning of the notes on the fifteenth chapter of Romans, where we read that "the proof of the genuineness of the chapters (xv. xvi.) is overwhelming." After stating two theories and styling them untenable, the commentator gives another "as the most probable and most likely to represent the real state of the facts," but it is undoubtedly more complicated and less probable than those propounded by Germans. The expedients adopted to save the genuineness of the last two chapters of the epistle are curious.

The introduction to the Acts is disappointing as well as the commentary. The writer uses and quotes Paley freely; he makes the Galatian epistle and the history in the Acts concordant; he assumes that the narrative in the Acts supplements St. Paul's own statements, and comments on the apostle's visits to Jerusalem from the two sources. But he fits them badly together. The note on xxviii. 21 shows how perfunctorily a difficulty is disposed of.

The Epistle to the Galatians is not treated so well as that to the Romans, though the expositor had before him "two commentaries in his own language, Dr. Lightfoot's and Bishop Ellicott's, which in their kind cannot easily be surpassed." If this be so, why is the word *seed* in chapter iii. 16 erroneously interpreted "Christ and *the spiritual Israel*"? Excursus A, on the visits of St. Paul to Jerusalem, is a lame attempt at reconciling the Acts with the apostle's statements. The writer takes refuge in the usual dictum, "If we knew the whole circumstances, there would probably be something more to be said"; and closes with a contemptuous fling at the theories of modern negative criticism, which are called a house of cards built on a shallow and slight foundation. Zeller and Overbeck are not mentioned by the commentators on the Acts and Galatians.

The expositor of the Epistles to the Corinthians explains the gift of tongues rightly; but the way in which he treats the phenomena described as occurring at Pentecost is insufficient. It is strange that he should have recourse to the assumption (which, however, is gravely offered by the expositor of Acts) that the outpouring on Pentecost had a miraculous effect which immediately ceased. The gift of speaking in languages before unknown was bestowed and then withdrawn. The miracle was momentary!

The Epistle to the Ephesians is not adequately expounded. The writer holds that it was encyclical—a view advocated by many scholars, but one that will not stand the test of close examination. In regard to the similarity between it and the Epistle to the Colossians, he speaks decidedly, pronouncing the likeness to be exactly such as belongs to contemporaneousness, and utterly incompatible with dependence of either upon the other. The strength of the affirmation is out of proportion to the correctness of the thing affirmed, and a more moderate tone should have been adopted.

A curious excursus is written on 2 Thessalonians respecting Antichrist, or the man of sin, who is thought to be a future pope, claiming in some way to be actually identified with Jesus Christ. The treatment of the Pastoral Epistles will not satisfy any careful reader. They are put, of course, into the supposed period of Paul's release from his Roman captivity; and all indications of a late date are explained away in accordance with this hypothesis. There are several incorrect statements. Thus it is said that we find in the letters *the seeds, but only the seeds*, of the famous Gnostic teaching—an assertion contrary to fact, as every good Church history proves.

The expositor of St. Jude's Epistle supposes that it is borrowed from the second Epistle of St. Peter; whereas nothing is more certain than that Jude is the earlier. Even Weiss and Grau admit it, though Hengstenberg takes the other side.

With all its imperfections, and they are many, the work contains expository matter which will be prized by English readers. The notes are frequently pertinent, showing an apprehension of the meaning of the sacred writers and a warm sympathy with their spirit. The tone is usually reverent and seemly. The difficulties themselves are sometimes treated satisfactorily, though the remark does not commonly hold good in regard to them, for questions involving nice discrimination or affecting the doctrine of plenary inspiration fail to find satisfactory answers.

We observe that Lightfoot, Alford, Ellicott, and the German books of which translations are published by Clark of Edinburgh, are the main sources whence the compilers draw. Side glances at scholars of another complexion are few and uncomplimentary. The latter, indeed, are kept out of sight, and have scant justice done them. There is a needless parade of the opinions of Church dignitaries (as if outward position carried truth along with it), which can influence none but superficial readers. Had greater independence been shown the work might have been better. As they stand these volumes will not give satisfaction to one of the two classes of readers for whom they were designed, viz., to those who doubt the full authority of Scripture. The other class, consisting, as we are told, of "quiet and godly souls," they may possibly support in the traditional faith.

A Trip to Boërland; or, a Year's Travel, Sport, and Gold-digging in the Transvaal and Colony of Natal. By Rowland J. Atcherley, Ph.D. (Bentley & Son.)

My Chief and I; or, Six Months in Natal after the Langalibalele Outbreak. By Atherton Wylde. (Chapman & Hall.)

Dr. Atcherley spent several months in the Transvaal in the years 1877–78, and during that period he travelled in all parts of the country. He appears to have undertaken the journey in a spirit of adventure, but at the same time with the laudable determination to acquire trustworthy information about the condition and resources of the new colony. Upon the political questions arising out of the annexation of the Transvaal he only sheds occasional gleams of light; and although his personal experiences were more than usually interesting, much of what he has written has been anticipated by earlier travellers. In one respect, however, he deserves special commendation. He has given an excellent description of the Transvaal gold-fields and of the life of their inhabitants, and, if anything will cure a man of the South African gold-fever, it is the picture which the author draws of this melancholy region, in which privation, failure, and ruin are the inevitable fate of the great majority of the diggers. He confirms the impression generally entertained that the Transvaal has a great future before it; but as the country stands in equal need of enterprise, capital, and a loyal population, it is not easy to see when or how that future is to be realized. He emphatically condemns the manner in which annexation was accomplished, and attributes that measure to the jealous rivalry of Natal. If the Boers had continued in the enjoyment of their independence they would, he says, have constructed a railway between Pretoria and Delagoa Bay, and thus have obtained access to the sea independently of British territory. As this would have been most injurious to the port of Durban, and to the trade of Natal with the interior, a desire to protect that colony against the probable competition of Delagoa Bay had, he thinks, much to do with the annexation of the Transvaal.

Both speakers and writers have been betrayed into error by their ignorance of the fact that many places which figure as important towns on maps of the Transvaal territory have in reality only a shadowy existence. Thus Derby, which has played some part in recent discussions, consists of only two houses. Even Lydenburg, which, owing to its connexion with the gold-fields, is a place of real importance, contains but two hundred inhabitants, who are distributed over an area of two square miles. When we read of the immense size of the farms owned by the Boers, it is natural to conjure up ideas of large tracts of fertile land being reclaimed from the wilderness, but the reality is something very different. On this subject Dr. Atcherley says:—

"It is not to be imagined that these farms of the Boers are in any way comparable to what we understand in the ordinary application of the term. They are simply huge tracts of country, containing 6,000 acres or more, with nothing but a small beacon of piled-up stones at certain points to mark the line of boundary. In proportion to the amount of land held by each proprietor there is a very small piece under cultivation—at the most ten or twenty acres, and, in the majority of cases, two or three, or none at all. The original method of measuring off these 'runs' was somewhat primitive. Starting from the last-made beacon, a Boer would ride in a straight line for half an hour as fast as his horse could carry him, then halt, erect a beacon, and again ride away for half an hour, in a direction at right angles to his first ride, and erect another. The rectangle made by these two lines of ride would contain his farm, so that by this method the Boer who had the fleetest horse obtained the largest tract of land. Within the last few years science, however, has been brought to bear on the subject, and farms are now measured by the theodolite. The introduction of this instrument has caused a great many disputes; farms, the boundaries of which were believed to be perfectly defined, were discovered to overlap one another to a serious extent, and as this is the case all through the country, the land surveyors are having a pretty good time of it."

If error has prevailed with regard to the Boers, it appears that an equal amount of misconception exists on the subject of the missionaries. The popular impression is

that a missionary confines himself to preaching the Gospel, and to setting before the heathen an example of unselfish devotion to the good of his fellow-creatures. But in the Transvaal a missionary appears to be a colonist whose oxen perambulate the country for purposes of trade, and who makes so little effort to conceal his temporal calling that his name is painted on the waggons which contain his goods. We fear that the British public have yet much to learn concerning the habits of their fellow-subjects in the Transvaal. Meanwhile the Kaffirs, who have shown their sense of humour by dubbing a two-shilling piece "a Scotchman," as a tribute to the nationality of the individual who once succeeded in palming off on them a quantity of florins as half-crowns, are also acute enough to estimate the pretensions of these trading missionaries at their true value.

Dr. Atcherley tried his hand at the gold diggings at Spitzkop and failed. He purchased an abandoned claim, and hired a Kaffir labourer to remove the top soil. He speaks highly of the honesty of the Kaffirs. While remarking that he never knew one of them to steal gold but once, he yet makes the grim statement that in the exceptional case to which he refers, the master—an Englishman—immediately shot the Kaffir dead. The great want of the gold-fields is water. With the drying up of the streams the digger finds it necessary to ascend to higher ground, and to construct artificial water-courses, which are very expensive, especially when a landslip takes place. Dr. Atcherley sums up the general experience by remarking that the man who has the good water makes a good living, while he who has the mud barely earns a subsistence. The great vicissitudes of life throughout the country, as well as at the gold-fields, may easily be imagined. When Dr. Atcherley was crossing the Drakensberg, he came across a well-known London stockbroker who was trying to earn a miserable livelihood by selling rum to passing travellers. In another place he met a "colonel" filling the humble post of barman at a wayside tavern; while at Spitzkop the diggers included military officers and a class of nondescripts, of whom the most notable was a remarkable character called "Yankee Dan":—

"He had footed it over a vast portion of Africa. The Zambesi he knew by heart from the Kongoni mouth to its rise in the Kabompo. He had harpooned the hippopotamus on the great inland African seas. Swahéli was to him as his mother tongue, and he was conversant with the languages of half the native races of the continent."

If this be not greatly exaggerated, the public would like to know more about "Yankee Dan," who is said, on one occasion, to have crossed single-handed from the Calabar country on the west coast to Quilimane on the east coast, a distance of nearly 2,500 miles.

The author during one of his journeys met Joubert, the principal leader of the Boers, and testifies to the singular reverence with which the patriarch was treated by his fellow-countrymen. It is a pity that Dr. Atcherley has not given more prominence in his book to the Boers, with whose character, mode of life, and national peculiarities he is evidently familiar. In spite, however, of this drawback, he has made a useful contribution to our knowledge of the Transvaal, and, at the same time, shown an impartiality which deserves cordial recognition.

'My Chief and I' deals exclusively with Natal. The writer narrates his personal experiences while serving under the late Col. Durnford; and in performing his labour of love he has been influenced by feelings of gratitude highly creditable to him, and which the reader, whom he takes into his confidence, will appreciate. Col. Durnford was Colonial Engineer in Natal. He was in command of the party who, during the so-called Langalibalele outbreak, sustained severe losses at Bushman's Pass; and he had hardly recovered the use of his arm, which was disabled in that unfortunate affair, when he fell at Isandhlwana. Mr. Atherton Wylde makes it clear that in South Africa the natives never had a better or wiser friend, or the Crown an abler or more loyal servant; while his conduct to his young companion showed that he was capable of the most unselfish friendship. Mr. Wylde served under him in an expedition which he undertook to the Drakensberg range for the purpose of rendering inaccessible the various mountain passes leading out of Natal into the interior, and through some of which Langalibalele and a remnant of his people had made good their flight from the colony. Mr. Wylde necessarily saw much of that remote and precipitous region which six years ago witnessed many harrowing scenes. His descriptions of the country are sufficiently picturesque, while his narrative of the adventures of the party is written with spirit; but the real interest of his story centres in the noble figure of his leader, and the latter's efforts to befriend the Putini tribe. Col. Durnford induced the Government to allow him to take ninety prisoners of the tribe on his expedition, the understanding being that if they behaved well they should, on their return, receive their freedom; and he hoped that when they were permitted to return to their homes the release of the whole tribe would quickly follow. Mr. Wylde states that when Col. Durnford, with his native troop, arrived in Weenen county, the resident magistrate asked him in angry tones "under whose advice Government had sent these rebels up to ravage the country," adding, "not one of them will be with you in a week, and we shall all be murdered in our beds." Yet these poor people had done no harm whatever to the colonists, and had much more reason to be afraid of the magistrate than he of them. At the time the colonial forces were hunting down Langalibalele, these "rebels" dwelt in a fertile valley, well watered by the Little Tugela:—

"And here, while so unsuspicious of approaching evil that not a man had taken up arms nor a woman fled, they were surprised by the Government forces. Their habitations were pillaged and burned, their cattle seized, and themselves carried off prisoners, with no knowledge on the part of the victims as to what their offence might be. It was said, indeed, that some women of their tribe, who had married amongst Langalibalele's people, had taken refuge in the huts of their fathers and brothers from the assegais of the murderous loyal native force. The women were not turned out by these near relatives to meet a bloody death, or, still worse, a dishonourable captivity, and the Government forces promptly taught the whole tribe that family affection and common humanity may be accounted as crimes."

Such was the punishment meted out to Putini's people for no other offence than that of acting to their kinsmen in the spirit of the good Samaritan; and yet, although the authorities acknowledged that their cruel proceedings had been a mistake and could not be defended, Col. Durnford experienced no little difficulty in inducing them to perform a tardy act of reparation to the captive members of the tribe. Mr. Atherton Wylde's book will deepen the respect which the public feel for the memory of a gallant officer who, as the author shows, laid down his life at Isandhlwana in a brave attempt to cover the retreat of the main body of the British force. The attractiveness of the volume is enhanced by an excellent portrait of Col. Durnford, and by several other illustrations.

NOVELS OF THE WEEK.

Donna Quixote. By Justin McCarthy. 3 vols. (Chatto & Windus.)
Love's Bondage. By Laurence Brooke. 3 vols. (S. Tinsley & Co.)
Loyella. By Mrs. H. Bennett-Edwards. 3 vols. (*The Royal Exchange* Office.)
In Sheep's Clothing. Same Author. 3 vols. (S. Tinsley & Co.)
Daireen. By Frank Frankfort Moore. 2 vols. (Smith, Elder & Co.)
Oh Where and oh Where. By Maurice Lee. 2 vols. (Tinsley Brothers.)

Mr. Justin McCarthy has the fancy and much of the humour of his countrymen, but restrained by the narrow field afforded by the bounds of society. His Donna Quixote is as charming as any of his heroines, and nothing but early widowhood would have forced her into the minor key. Oppressed by her native loyalty to a memory less of love than of conscientious shortcomings, it is long before she emancipates herself from the life of self-imposed penitence and restitution (in which she fails at all points), and finds in a genuine attachment deliverance from all her egotism. The creatures she befriends are ludicrously unworthy. She misses every chance of doing good, except when she makes the Bohemian Clarkson known to his ridiculously Philistine and yet sentimental brother; she sets a villain on his disastrous career; she unearths an adventuress to thwart and annoy her best friends; and yet she is the best-hearted of women. Among her *protégés* not the least amusing is Claudia Lemuel, the pessimist, at whose lectures the most wonderful women propound the least wonderful conundrums. That the solution of them all is woman, understood from each individual point of view, may sound like slander, but is not an unnatural result. With all phases of modern eccentricity the author is at least superficially conversant, and the genuine nature of his heroine contrasts strongly with her *bizarre* surroundings.

Mr. Brooke's story is a good one of its kind, and shows some advance, in point of narrative skill, on the earlier novel which he mentions on his title-page. It is true that the hero and the situations of 'Love's Bondage' are of a type by no means original,

even if it has not been worn down to bluntness. A noble and chivalrous man, without a blemish on his honour, a handsome soldier to boot, whom women love to distraction, and contrive to ruin much in the same way as the Thracian women ruined Orpheus, and who rises superior to the malignancy of fate and the triviality of martyrdom—this is not new. The very title of Mr. Brooke's story suggests the same sort of comparison as its situations; and yet it may be repeated without hesitation that the novel is good and pleasant of its kind. The characters are well drawn, and in the interchange of speech and action there is much that is true to human nature. 'Love's Bondage' is worth reading.

The story of 'Loyella' shows some originality. There are no love scenes and nothing about love till near the middle of the second volume, and it is the early part of the book which is the most interesting. When the plot developes it becomes more commonplace. Loyella herself is a character who cannot fail to prove attractive to many readers. She is a great writer, a great musician, a princess, rich and beautiful, and her place of birth was Rome. Hearing her play on a violin, Wagner had said to her, "You have caught my ideas without deforming them. Why do you not give the public the benefit of your genius? You could become our *prima donna* in a season." When she appeared at the theatre every opera-glass was turned to her box. At the opening of the story she had recently purchased an old abbey, and there she lived in retirement as Mrs. Grant. Nobody knew who she was in that out-of-the-way country place, but she was indifferent. She was indeed altogether independent of public opinion. When at last somebody did call upon her, she did not resent the civility, but was rather amused in studying English county society. There is a good deal of mystery about her. The little girl who lives with her and the odd man who pays her sudden visits puzzle the reader as much as the county families. The machinery of anonymous letters which helps out the story detracts from its interest, and Loyella's love story seems too simple for so mysterious a personage.

Mrs. Bennett-Edwards's industry is remarkable. 'In Sheep's Clothing' follows quickly upon the heels of 'Loyella.' As the two stories are very different in plot, it must be admitted that the author has plenty of invention. The heroine in the present book married a man whom she had known all her life, and hated by reputation as a murderer who had escaped conviction. He had gone to Australia and changed his name, but eventually the truth comes out, and then there is, of course, estrangement and eventually reconciliation. The facts in this part of the story are rather hazy, and the novel, therefore, becomes a study of the heroine's character. It would have been better if there had been no mystery whatever about the story of the murder, or if it had been open to a thorough explanation. The heroine would then have been a more clearly defined person. As it is, she does not appear to be consistent. The author's conception of her character can hardly have been clear. In the minor characters there is a good deal of skilful drawing, which would have been better set off by a less gorgeous style of description and reflection.

Mr. Moore might with propriety have added to his title "a Tale of Ireland and South Africa," for the whole of the events described take place in those two parts of the world and on a voyage out to the Cape. Daireen is the name of a pretty and charming Miss Gerald, and the plot turns on the attempts of several men at the same time to win her hand. To our great disappointment, none of them succeeds in actually doing so before the author bids us farewell, but we are led to infer that the most worthy of them will in due time have that happiness, for the young lady in the last chapter expressly permits him "to hope." The author is evidently unskilled in weaving a plot, and it is taxing the reader's credulity rather too highly to ask him to believe that a man could recover after floating about for seven days in the Atlantic lashed to a spar. There is a good deal of exaggeration in the delineation of several of the *dramatis personæ*. An apostle of the æsthetic school, who at his first breakfast on the voyage to the Cape orders nothing but a pear and a grape, and sends these away untasted because opposite him sits a young lady wearing a pink dress with a blue ribbon in her hair, comes in for merciless treatment. Still within certain limits Mr. Moore shows ability, and gives his book a sub-acid flavour which makes it very palatable.

'Oh Where and oh Where' is one of the slightest stories which ever filled two volumes; but it shows many signs of promise, mixed with quite as many signs of inexperience. That part of the story which deals with Cambridge and a money trouble of certain undergraduates is written with simplicity and directness, but the remainder of the book shows utter want of restraint. It is full of those fine passages which ought to have been cut out.

CHRISTMAS BOOKS.

The Children's Picture Annual: the Story of Irene and the Gipsies. By Mercie Sunshine. Third Series. (Ward, Lock & Co.)

Parted: a Tale of Clouds and Sunshine. By N. D'Anvers. (C. Kegan Paul & Co.)

Model Yachts and Model Yacht Sailing: How to Build, Rig, and Sail a Self-Acting Model Yacht. By James E. Walton, V.M.Y.C. (Griffith & Farran.)

Honor Bright; or, the Four-Leaved Shamrock. By the Authors of 'Two Blackbirds,' &c. (Gardner.)

The Begum's Fortune. By Jules Verne. Translated by W. H. G. Kingston. With an Account of the Mutineers of the Bounty. (Sampson Low & Co.)

The Old Ship; or, Better than Strength. By H. A. Forde. (Gardner.)

The Young Carpenters of Freiberg: a Tale of the Thirty Years' War. Translated from the German by J. Latchmore, jun. (Edinburgh, Oliphant & Co.)

Golden Childhood. (Ward, Lock & Co.)

Phil's Champion: an Irish Story. By Robert Richardson, M.A. (Edinburgh, Oliphant & Co.)

The Siege of Vienna: a Story of the Turkish War in 1683. Translated from the German by J. Latchmore, jun. (Same publishers.)

Adventures in Western Africa. By the Rev. H. S. B. Yates. (Same publishers.)

The Langdales of Langdale End. By the Author of 'Valeria.' (Marcus Ward & Co.)

True to his Colours; or, the Life that Wears Best. By the Rev. T. P. Wilson. (Nelson & Sons.)

Jane Taylor: her Life and Letters. By Mrs. H. C. Knight. (Same publishers.)

'The Children's Picture Annual' is the third series which "Mercie Sunshine" has given her young readers. It is very nicely got up; the print and the illustrations are good. The volume contains one story only, 'Irene and the Gipsies,' which is interesting and well told.

'Parted' is a pretty story. The timid little Indian girl, parted from her father and mother and set down in the midst of a family of strong, healthy English cousins, who cannot understand what it is to feel afraid of anything, forms the centre of interest, which is well and naturally worked out. The spirit of the story is excellent, and the descriptions of the visit to the land and localities of 'Lorna Doone' are very good, and so are the adventures of the children. It is altogether a pleasant little book.

'Model Yachts and Model Yacht Sailing' is a handsome and carefully written volume, filled with diagrams and directions, to teach boys how to build their boats correctly, giving them the rules and principles upon which yachts ought to be constructed. The author declares that "it is very remarkable, as well as no little disgrace to us as a maritime nation, to note the utterly purposeless way in which nearly all boys or men sail their model vessels." This work may be recommended to all who wish to make their small vessels "ship-shape."

'Honor Bright' is an excellent story of the dreams and hopes of a family of children longing to find that fairy treasure the "four-leaved shamrock," which, as everybody knows, will procure for the fortunate finder the fulfilment of all his wishes. It tells how the two elder ones, Brian and his sister Honor, discover at last that to strive earnestly to do their duty and not to please themselves is the true talisman for finding cheerful content and brightness in their life. It is an interesting story, and the moral grows out of the incidents.

'The Begum's Fortune' is another of Jules Verne's marvellous tales, well translated by Mr. Kingston. It is full of illustrations, and young readers will delight in the exciting surprises and dangers from which no one but Jules Verne could deliver his heroes. The story of the mutineers of the Bounty has become a dim tradition, and it is acceptable to meet with the authentic narrative.

'The Old Ship' is a good story well told, and the moral is well enforced.

'The Young Carpenters of Freiberg' is an interesting tale of the Thirty Years' War. It is well translated, and is a vivid picture of those terrible times.

'Golden Childhood' is a beautifully got-up volume; the illustrations are excellent, and the letter-press is suitable for the young readers for whom the work is designed.

'Phil's Champion' is a pleasing story, which may be given as a present to young people. It is not so clever as some Irish stories we have read, but it is a pleasant and perfectly unobjectionable book.

'The Siege of Vienna' shows what the Turks were less than two hundred years ago, and the terror they inspired in Europe. The tale is well translated, and will be read with peculiar interest at the present time.

Adventures in Africa have always a charm of their own, and these 'Adventures in Western Africa' will find favour with readers. Mr. Yates has done justice to his subject.

'The Langdales of Langdale End' is interesting and unobjectionable; young people will find in it much to please, and also, it is to be hoped, to profit them.

'True to his Colours' is a safe book to give as a prize to young people, gentle or simple; they can hardly fail to receive good impressions from reading it, and it is interesting as a story.

Jane Taylor used to be a name beloved in many nurseries some generations ago. Who is there belonging to those old days who does not sometimes remember those two "most elegant ladies" who resided in Cavendish Square and the last dying speech of poor puss? Then, again, there were the charming tale of 'Display' and 'The Contributions of Q. Q.,' some of the papers being wonderfully clever. We turned eagerly to this memorial of her by Mrs. Knight in the hope of greeting our dear old friend once more, and, alas! we found something as like the real Jane Taylor of our youth as the stiff, dried flower in a *hortus siccus* resembles the living bloom. It is dry, didactic, sententious; the religious aspect of her character is rendered unattractive; and altogether the volume resembles some of the "Sunday books" which used to form the staple religious reading for young people in former days, when entertaining books were not allowed on Sundays. There is nothing wrong in the work, but it is very dull.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

In some books, and in some writers, as much as possible must be made of the intention, or nothing good can be said of them. *The Witty and Humorous Side of the English Poets*, by Arthur H. Elliott (Sampson Low & Co.), is of the type in question. It is impossible not to feel that the author means well and that his book is honestly intended; and for so much due credit may be allowed without parley. Beyond this, however, there is no more. Mr. Elliott starts with a definition or two of wit and a definition or two of humour; and his authorities are Leigh Hunt, Hazlitt, and Locke. Then he goes on to tell of the wit of Langland, with six verses of 'Piers Plowman' by way of proof; of the humour of Chaucer, with ten verses from the 'Tales' and the 'Ballade of the Purse'; of Lydgate, with 'London Lackpenny' at his heels; of Skelton, with twenty or thirty couplets from "Why come ye not to Court?" of Wyatt, More, Surrey, Andrew Borde, Udall, Heywood, Gascoigne, Tusser, Lyndsay, Maitland, Barclay, and Dunbar; and so in some five-and-twenty pages, including quotations, the fun of England for some five hundred years is disposed of, without a single apt remark, without a single touch of insight to show that Mr. Elliott is better qualified for his task than another. The second chapter treats of "Shakspeare and his Contemporaries" in the same fashion, and to much the same purpose; the third, of wit and humour "From Shakspeare to Dryden"; the sixth, of "Goldsmith and his Contemporaries"; and so on down to the present time. That distinguished wit and humourist, the author of 'Festus,' is represented by his lyric poem in honour of the crow—a song that bears about the same resemblance to witty and humorous verse as a black draught bears to champagne. Another distinguished wit and humourist, Mr. George Meredith, is represented by 'The Beggar's Soliloquy'—a copy of verses he will scarce thank Mr. Elliott for exhuming. Mr. Burnand, too, will hardly care to descend to posterity as the author of "His heart was true to Poll"; though Mr. Robert Reece, represented by a punning love-letter, will doubtless be glad to get there on any terms. Mr. Elliott has quoted a great deal worth reading, and written nothing that is fit to keep his quotations company. His "volume," he hopes, "may be the means of inducing the reader to go deeper into its fascinating subject." Perhaps it will, perhaps it will not. As a commonplace book in disguise it is a work of merit; as an original contribution to literature the less said of it the better.

The English reader who desires to know something about Daniel Webster as an orator will turn with curiosity to the selection from his *Great Speeches and Orations*, to which Mr. E. P. Whipple has prefixed an essay upon his characteristics as an orator (Sampson Low & Co.). The essay itself is disappointing, and in his attempt to analyze Webster's powers Mr. Whipple merely skims the surface of the question. Nor is he always trustworthy concerning matters of fact. Indeed, after perusing Mr. Whipple's essay we neither understand Webster better nor do we admire him more. Certainly the reader is not helped to an intelligent comprehension or a deeper appreciation of these speeches by being told that they are "organized," and that they owe their vitality to this fact. It is simpler and far more to the point to say that they have the great and enduring virtues of simplicity and truthfulness. There is little exaggeration and very little unfairness in them. A great orator trusts to his facts for finding an effect; a mere rhetorician relies on his phrases. Hundreds of Webster's contemporaries could speak as fluently as he did, yet none rivalled him in power. He possessed the gift, common to all great orators, of saying a thing with emphasis and producing the impression that he had not exhausted himself. The minor orator leaves the audience convinced that he has emptied his quiver. One of the most powerful among his speeches in this collection, his reply to Col. Hayne, would have been appreciated still more if his adversary's speech had been reprinted also. Moreover, a still better selection might have been made for readers who are unable or disinclined to peruse the whole of his speeches. Nevertheless those persons who desire to learn for themselves the grounds on which Webster's reputation as an orator is based will find sufficient material in this volume for forming an opinion.

Dr. Berliner has just brought out an interesting monograph, with the title of *Beiträge zur Hebräischen Grammatik im Talmud und Midrasch*, in which he tries to prove that Talmudical schools had already cultivated Hebrew grammar, contrary to the general opinion that R. Saadyah Gaon (about 930 A.D.) was the first who founded Hebrew grammar. We do not think that Dr. Berliner has proved his point by giving passages out of the Talmudical books where a quadriliteral root is decomposed into two biliteral roots for the sake of Halakhic or Agadic interpretations, or where the doctors speak about a word being of masculine or feminine gender, singular or plural, or even passages alluding to an ablative form. This is by no means grammar. Besides, his quotations are not early ones; most of them date from the fifth and sixth centuries, and even later dates, periods when the Karaites, who relied upon the literal interpretation of the Scripture in opposition to that of the Talmudical schools, were obliged to recur to grammar. If we had the earliest Karaitic writings we should certainly find grammatical chapters of the sixth and seventh centuries. Dr. Berliner, having contributed so much to the Massorah literature, ought to have known that the notes of the Massorets on the Biblical texts are much older than his quotations from the Talmud. But they did not compose a grammar in the strictest sense of the word.

Miss Broughton's 'Tales for Christmas Eve' have been republished under the title of *Twilight Stories*, making the twelfth volume of Mr. Bentley's "Empire Library."

Mr. Arber's recent publications include the second volume of *An English Garner*, in which are given among other works the whole of Constable's 'Diana, or excellent conceited Sonnets'; 'Lyrics, Elegies, &c., from the first printed Collection of Madrigals, edited and set to music by W. Byrd'; and 'A Chronological History of New England, in the form of Annals by the Rev. T. Prince, M.A., printed in Boston, N.E., in 1736 and 1754–5.' Eight numbers of the old series of the "English Scholar's Library" have also appeared, the most noteworthy being 'The Seven Deadly Sins of London,' by Thos. Decker, the drama of the 'Returne from Parnassus,' first acted in 1602, and 'A Handefull of Pleasant Delights,' by Clement Robinson and others, a work which has previously been reprinted by the Spenser Society. Forthcoming volumes of the same series include Richard Stanyhurst's translation of the Æneid, books i.–iv., Hawes's 'Passe-Tyme of Pleasure,' Barnefield's poems, and 'The Golden Targe,' by William Dunbar, together with a series of works bearing on the Martin Marprelate controversy, the introduction to which is already published.

It would be a great change for the better if many of the volumes now encumbering our table were as useful and as thoroughly executed as *The London Post Office Directory* (Kelly & Co.). It is a satisfaction to find a work so carefully revised, and such a huge mass of materials made so easy of reference. One hundred and fifty-five new trades are specified in the new issue.

The most important of the various almanacs on our table is the *Banking Almanac* (Waterlow & Sons), which is under the competent editorship of Mr. R. H. Inglis Palgrave. The introductory remarks are unusually interesting, coming as they do after a year which has witnessed so many failures. Mr. Palgrave mentions the decrease in the number of bank offices in Scotland consequent mainly on the failure of the City of Glasgow Bank, and rightly remarks that a further diminution is desirable. A valuable paper on the subject of bank branches is contributed by Mr. Newmarch.—*The Gardeners' Year-Book*, edited by Dr. Hogg, has reached its twenty-first year, and is a highly useful compilation.—*The Catholic Family Annual* is an American publication creditable to the Catholic Publication Society of New York.—*Fulcher's Ladies' Memorandum Book* (Sudbury, Pratt) contains its usual quota of tales, verses, and enigmas.

Among the handsomest Christmas Cards we have seen this year are those of Messrs. Marcus Ward & Co. The only fault in them is that the colouring is a little crude at times.—Mr. Harding sends us Cards with fox-hunting and sporting scenes that will probably be popular.—Messrs. Ward also send us a *Motto Calendar* and a *Shakspearean Calendar*, which are both of tasteful design.

The first volume of the *Scritti Vari* of the late Luigi Settembrini (Naples, Morano) contains a large number of speeches and articles, some of them too short to be worth reprinting. One of the best is a letter to Count T. Mamiani, "Sugli esami di Licenza Liceale."

Parcs et Jardins, Résumé des Notes d'un Practicien. Par Armand Péan.—Without being very remarkable, these notes, with their accompanying designs and plans, are intelligent and useful.

We have on our table *The Nineteenth Century: a History*, by R. Mackenzie (Nelson),—*Cameos from English History*, by the Author of 'The Heir of Redclyffe' (Macmillan),—*Descriptions of New Indian Lepidopterous Insects*, by W. C. Hewitson and F. Moore (Calcutta, Asiatic Society of Bengal),—*The Building Materials of Otago*, by W. N. Blair (Dunedin, Wilkie & Co.),—*Blackwood's Magazine*, Part XX. (Blackwood),—*Beeton's Christmas Annual: Seven Poor Tradesmen* (Ward, Lock & Co.),—*Living Pages from Many Ages*, by M. Hield (Cassell),—*The Munster Circuit*, by J. R. O'Flanagan (Low),—*The Serpent Charmer*, by L. Rousselet (Low),—*Frank Blake, the Trapper*, by Mrs. Hardy (S. Tinsley & Co.),—*My Cousin and I*, by E. S. Phelps (Sunday School Union),—*All True*, by Dr. Macaulay (Hodder & Stoughton),—*The Reverse of the Shield*, by A. Marryat (Warne),—*A Birthday Book of Fair Maidens* (H. Rothe),—*Auld Acquaintance: a Birthday Book from Robert Burns*, compiled by J. E. Begg (Nimmo),—*The Household Birthday Book* (Nimmo),—*American Poems* (Trübner),—and *The Earth, an Epic Poem*, by Mrs. C. B. Langston (S. Tinsley & Co.).

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Theology.

Aitken's (W. H. M. H.) The Difficulties of the Soul, 2/6 cl.
Hutton's (A. W.) The Anglican Ministry, its Nature and Value in Relation to the Catholic Priesthood, 8vo. 14/ cl.
Karslake's (Rev. W. H.) Intimations of Holy Scripture as to the State of Man after Death, 8vo. 6/ cl.
Lillingston's (Rev. F. A. C.) Christian Progress, 12mo. 2/ cl.
Wale's (B. B.) The Closing Days of Christendom as Foreshadowed in Parable and Prophecy, cr. 8vo. 5/ cl.

Fine Art and Archæology.

Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress, with 100 Illustrations by F. Barnard and others, 4to. 21/ cl.
Clements's (C.) Michelangelo, Lionardo da Vinci, and Raphael, translated by L. Corkran, cr. 8vo. 10/6 cl.
Marks's (T. S.) The Great Pyramid, its History and Teaching, cr. 8vo. 2/ cl.
Marshall's (J.) Rule of Proportion for the Human Figure, illustrated by J. S. Cuthbert, folio, 8/ in wrapper.
Pullan's (R. P.) Elementary Lectures on Christian Architecture, cr. 8vo. 3/ cl.

Poetry.

Irwin's (A. V.) Cædmon's Ralph, and other Poems, 3/6 cl.
Milton's Poetical Works, 2 vols. 32mo. 2/6 cl. (Miniature Library of Poets.)

Philosophy.

Hatch's (W. M.) The Moral Philosophy of Aristotle, 18/ cl.
Weatherly's (F. E.) Rudiments of Logic, Deductive and Inductive, 12mo. 2/6 cl.

History and Biography.

Alzog's (Rev. J.) Manual of Universal Church History, Vol. 2, 8vo. 7/6 cl.
Carpenter (Mary), Life and Work of, by J. ... Carpenter, 10/6
De Pressensé's (E.) Contemporary Portraits, translated by A. Harwood Holmden, cr. 8vo. 7/6 cl.
Duff (Alexander), Life of, by G. Smith, Vol. 2, 8vo. 12/ cl.
English Men of Letters, Hawthorne, by H. James, 2/6 cl.
Flowers's (P. W.) History of the Trade in Tin, 8vo. 10/6 cl.
Gasparin (Count Agenor de), a Biography, translated from the French of Th. Borel, 12mo. 3/6 cl.
Johnstone's (C. F.) Historical Abstracts, being Outlines of the History of some of the less known States of Europe, cr. 8vo. 7/6 cl.
Macdonell's (J.) France since the First Empire, edited by his Wife, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.
Neirn's (W.) England and the Holy See, cr. 8vo. 7/6 cl.
Procter's (R. W.) Memorials of Bygone Manchester, 25/ cl.
Warner's (Rev. R. H.) History of Thonney Abbey, Cambridgeshire, 8vo. 7/6 cl.

Geography and Travel.

Boyle's (F.) Chronicles of No Man's Land, a Third Series of Camp Notes, cr. 8vo. 10/6 cl.
Bunbury's (E. H.) History of Ancient Geography, 2 vols. 42/
Houstoun's (Mrs.) Twenty Years in the Wild West, or Life in Connaught, cr. 8vo. 9/ cl.
Markham's (Capt. A. H.) The Great Frozen Sea, cheaper edition, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.
Sibree's (Rev. J.) The Great African Island, Chapters on Madagascar, 8vo. 12/ cl.
Trevelyan's (L. R.) A Year in Peshawur, and a Lady's Ride into the Khyber Pass, cr. 8vo. 9/ cl.

Philology.

Asplet's (G. C.) Complete French Course, Part 1, 12mo. 2/6
Baranowski's (J. J.) Vade Mecum de la Langue Française, 2/6
Livy's History of Rome, Bks. 5, 6, and 7, a literal translation, by a "First-Class Man," cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.

Science.

Davis (G. E.), Dreyfus (C.), and Holland's (P.) Sizing and Mildew in Cotton Goods, 8vo. 15/ cl.
Huxley's (T. H.) The Crayfish, an Introduction to the Study of Zoology, cr. 8vo. 5/ cl.
Stewart's (W.) Clinical Researches on the Therapeutic Action of Chloride of Ammonium in the Treatment of Hepatic Disease, 8vo. 5/ cl.

General Literature.

Among the Brambles, and other Lessons from Life, by E. C., 12mo. 3/6 cl.
Ballantyne's (R. M.) Philosopher Jack, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
Bonar's (H.) My Old Letters, new and cheaper edition, 2 vols. 32mo. 3/ cl.
Boyd's (Mrs. M. D. R.) Grace Ashleigh's Life Work, 5/ cl.
Brown's (P.) A Year's Cookery, cr. 8vo. 5/ cl.
Chetwynd's (A. B.) Led Astray, a Novel, 2 vols. cr. 8vo. 21/
Chetwynd's (Hon. Mrs. H. W.) Life in a German Village, 7/6
Chit-Chat by Puck, Tea-Time Tales, from the Swedish of R. Gustafsson, by A. Alberg, 12mo. 2/6 cl.
Conway's (M. D.) A Necklace of Stories, sm. 4to. 6/ cl.
Dickens's (H.) The Home of Faith, 3 vols., cr. 8vo. 31/6 cl.
Durrant's Handy Farm-Labour Book, folio, 3/6 hf. bd.
Elliott's (R.) John Lyon, or from the Depths, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
Ernestine, a Novel, by Author of 'The Vulture Maiden,' 2 vols., cr. 8vo. 10/6 cl.
Foster's (J.) The Peerage, Baronetage, and Knightage of the British Empire, 1880, roy. 8vo. 42/ cl.
Gamekeeper at Home (The), illustrated by C. Whymper, 10/6
Gilbert's (W.) Mrs. Dubosq's Bible, 12mo. 2/6 cl.
James's (H.) Confidence, 2 vols. cr. 8vo. 21/ cl.
Jennings's (J. A.) Wayside Restings, 18mo. 2/6 cl.
Marrat's (Rev. J.) Land of the Mountain and the Flood, royal 16mo. 3/6 cl.
Molière's Le Malade Imaginaire, edited by F. Tarver, 2/6 cl.
Oliphant's (Mrs.) The Greatest Heiress in England, 3 vols. cr. 8vo. 31/6 cl.
Prince's (J. J.) School Management and Method in Theory and Practice, 12mo. 3/6 cl.
Salamanca's (Don Félix de) Philosophy of Handwriting, 4/6
Stepping Stones, an Allegory, by Author of 'Flower and Fruit,' &c., 16mo. 2/ cl.
True and Romantic History of William Pigg, Esq., M.P. for Ham(p)shire, by Hon. C. Ellis, the Poetical Accompaniment by Rev. A. H. Martin, sm. 4to. 6/ cl.
Werner's (E.) Hermann, a Novel, translated by H. K. Brown, cr. 8vo. 10/6 cl.
White's (G.) Twice Parted, a Christmas Book for the Young, 12mo. 2/ cl.
Willard's (C. A.) The Winthrop Family, a Story of New England Life Fifty Years Ago, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.

'JULIUS CÆSAR,' I. 3, 126-130.

Halle, November, 1879.

For now this fearefull Night,
There is no stirre, or walking in the streetes;
And the Complexion of the Element
Is Fauors, like the Worke we haue in hand,
Most bloodie, fierie, and most terrible.

This is the uniform reading of the folios, with the only exception of "Fauours" in the third and fourth. Mr. Herr, in his 'Scattered Notes on the Text of Shakespeare,' lately published at Philadelphia, proposes "Is haviours," a conjecture which I think will hardly anywhere be welcomed as a suitable substitute for Dr. Johnson's generally received correction, "In favour's." On the contrary, I feel convinced that not even those critics will accept Mr. Herr's new reading that take exception to Dr. Johnson's emendation. Among the latter Prof. Craik, in his edition of 'Julius Cæsar' (fifth ed., p. 133 *seq.*), takes a prominent place. After mentioning another emendation, proposed either by Steevens (according to Prof. Craik) or by Capell (according to the Cambridge edition), viz., "Is favoured," Prof. Craik continues:—"To say that the complexion of a thing is either featured like or in feature like to something else is very like a tautology." He is, therefore, strongly inclined to adopt Reed's (or, according to the Cambridge edition, Rowe's) ingenious conjecture, "Is feverous," to which, on the other hand, Mr. Aldis Wright, in his annotated edition, very properly objects, inasmuch as "the word 'complexion' in the previous line suits better with 'favour's' than with 'feverous.'" In my humble opinion neither the one nor the other of these conjectures is what the poet wrote. Prof. Craik is quite right in remarking that "it may, perhaps, count for something, though not very much, against both 'favour's like' and 'favoured like' that a very decided comma separates the two words in the original edition." If, as I imagine, the original reading was "*Ill-favoured*," even the most decided comma may keep its place after it with propriety. As to the semicolon after "streets" in the second line, it does not seem to be of any great moment whether it be retained or replaced by a comma, as has been done in the Cambridge edition. K. Elze.

NOTES FROM OXFORD.

December, 1879.

We are at the end of a busy term, during a great part of which we have worked with a sense of being under inspection. Throughout November the Commissioners held their assize, and the great majority of colleges have now appeared before them. On the whole, the impression left is that there will be a few useful reforms and a good deal of unimportant tinkering. There will be a few more professors and a good many more readers, who will, we hope, be something more than unattached college tutors. College fellowships will be, roughly speaking, divided into two classes—tutorial and prize fellowships—the former being the better paid, but, of course, involving residence and teaching, though not necessarily celibacy, while the latter will carry only a small income, will be terminable in most cases at the end of seven years, but will leave the holder free to go where he likes and do what he pleases. The link between the two will probably be the fact that a certain number of prize Fellows in each year will decide to stay in Oxford, and will ultimately be transformed into tutorial Fellows. The treatment of scholarships is complicated by the interests of schools and schoolmasters, and whether the Commissioners will harden their hearts and reduce the value and limit the tenure of these endowments seems at present uncertain. Many of us, however, would feel happier about the results if we could feel sure that the Commissioners were alive to the danger they are in of falling between two stools. They apparently intend to satisfy to some extent the cry for a fuller recognition of the claims of learning by the University; it seems that they are also willing within limits to allow individual colleges to do what they think will best secure an efficient all-round teaching within their own walls. But it is not yet clear what are the relations, if any, that they mean to establish between university and college teaching. As yet the two have been pitted against each other, and the contest has been ridiculously unequal. The college teacher has had the double advantage of being able to secure an audience by force of discipline, and of an intimate acquaintance with undergraduates on the one hand, and with the examinations they have to pass on the other. The professor, on the contrary, has been an unnecessary luxury, except where his subject and his method of teaching have been applicable to the schools, or where, as in the case of natural science, the colleges have only in a few cases provided teaching of their own. It is of the very first importance that this unequal struggle should give place to a harmonious co-operation, and, difficult as the task of securing it may be, it is one which we have a right to expect our Commissioners to attempt. The first step, the introduction of something like a systematic division of labour into the teaching in each of the chief departments, seems to be already in contemplation at Cambridge, and here we have in our Boards of Studies an existing apparatus which might be turned to good account in this direction.

The scheme for creating a degree in Natural Science is in rather a precarious state. When it was last discussed, some three weeks ago, a comprehensive amendment was carried, which effectually disembowelled the statute by striking out all the clauses which gave practical effect to its principle by prescribing the course of study for the new degree. It was supported both by those who dislike the whole idea of dispensing with the necessary study of Greek, and by those who would prefer to see the conditions of the Arts degree altered and relaxed on this point rather than the creation of a new degree—a view which has most decidedly gained ground, especially among scientific men themselves, since the statute was first brought in, and which may yet win its way to general acceptance.

It will be remembered that in the summer a generous offer was made by a member of the University to establish a single travelling studentship for the encouragement of classical archæology. The election will take place in January, and there is good reason to hope that the Board of Management, consisting of Messrs. C. T. Newton, D. B. Monro, and W. W. Capes, will be able to send out an able and competent man, in spite of the fact that, owing mainly to the absence of regular archæological study here, the competition has been limited to a very few. Where the student will be sent is as yet uncertain, but Asia Minor offers a rich and comparatively unexplored field for investigation. A careful examination of that meeting ground of East and West ought, for one thing, to throw much light on the vexed question of the early relations between the Greeks and the ancient civilizations of Asia. And if this first experiment succeeds it will powerfully assist those who are anxious to find room in our studies here for classical archæology. Cambridge has already admitted it; public interest in the subject is palpably growing, and will no doubt be stimulated and directed by the new Hellenic Society, the number of whose members is steadily increasing. It will be impossible for us to shut our doors against it much longer. P.

THE EIKON BASILIKE.

I.

Among the papers of Sir Edward Nicholas, Secretary of State to Charles I. and II., I have found six documents relating to the Eikon Basilike, five of which seem to be hitherto unknown, and may, therefore, help to throw some new light on the vexed question of the

authorship of that book. It was only natural and to be expected that such papers would turn up in that quarter, if it be borne in mind that the book is said to have been first printed from a manuscript copy in the hand of Nicholas Oudart, who was private secretary to Sir E. Nicholas. The earliest dated of the five papers is an original letter to Sir E. Nicholas, signed by Christopher Hatton, first Baron Hatton; Sir Richard Browne, Resident at Paris for Charles II.; John Cosin, Dean of Peterborough, Chaplain to the English Court in Paris, afterwards Bishop of Durham; and George Morley, afterwards Bishop of Winchester. It is dated Paris, Jan. 1st, 1650, New Style. Enclosed in the above letter is a draft of instructions (drawn up by the writers of the above letter) for Charles II. to send from Jersey, where he was then residing, to Sir R. Browne. The letter runs as follows:—

Sir,—In obedience to his Ma^tie^s Commands signified vnto us in yours of the 13/23 Nov^r wee haue at last spoken with Mons^r Marsys (after some delayes on his Part) To whome wee represented his Ma^tie^s Just sense and Indignation against the Preface, Title Page, References, and notes annexed to his Translation and Edition of the Booke written by his late Ma^tie^s of euer blessed Memory.

Wee asked him upon what grounds, and by whose incouragement, priuity, or advice he presumed to put forth the Advertisement, Preface, and Notes upon that Translation, so boldly and scandalously insinuating that his late Ma^tie^s was enclining to Popery.

To which he Answered That as he had not been put upon this Worke by any, so had not any person been made aquainted therewith by him before the Impression of his Booke; but that upon generall Conference with those Protestants, and Roman Catholiques, with whome he had conversed it was thought more advantagious to represent the late King a Roman Catholique then a Puritan as they conceiued Porrée had done, in regard, that it might be a meanes to stirre up the Romish Partie to helpe, and assist his Ma^tie^s that now is; which would be of greater Concernement then any thing the Calvinists or Huguenotts would doe. He further added, That at his first vndertaking he had no intention to Prefixe any Preface, or adde any notes to his Edition, but that he was afterwards prouoked thereunto upon the Sight of Mons^r Porrées Preface, and willfull Faults in his Translation.

Wee demanded of him; First why he called the Booke intituled Le Portraict du Roy vn liure Aposté et Diffamatoire, which wee and all others (but himselfe) conceiued To be the Right and true translation of *εἰκὼν βασιλικὴ*, the same being the Title affixed to that Booke when it was first printed in England, and therein translated The Portraiture of his Sacred Ma^tie^ as it was likewise rendred Imago Regis Caroli in the Latin Edition set forth in Holland by the Approbation of his Ma^tie^s that now is, Marsys himselfe hauing no other Copie to translate by, then those Two that had the same Title, which he calls Aposté &c. And secondly being demanded, why he had not Suppress'd his new Imposed Title, together with his slanderous and bold assertion concerning the Former, which he might haue timely done upon the early Admonition of Sir Richard Browne, giuen him the day after the Titles of his Booke were first affixed to the publique Places of this Cittie, and before any of the Copies were deliuered out at the Printing house, it being then likewise represented vnto him that in his new Title Page, He did not Charge the Booke entituled le Portrait du Roy &c. to be an ill Translated Booke but a meere Supposititious Booke, and that advantage would from hence be taken, in England, to increase, if not Confirme their Scandalls who gaue it out that *εἰκὼν βασιλικὴ* was not written by the late King; wherein his boldnesse had been also the greater, in that he had so excessiuely vilified that Edition, which he knew his Ma^tie^ that now is by his Gracious Expressions, in his Royal Letters to Mons^r Porrée had well accepted of, in regard both of his Paines and his early readinesse to render that excellent Booke vnto his owne nation in their owne Tongue, although through haste and want of a perfect vnderstanding in the English Tongue some errours and faultes might escape him in that Translation.

His answer to all this was, First, that Porrée had not truly translated the Title of *εἰκὼν βασιλικὴ* because to Portrait du Roy he had added these words De la Grand' Bretaigne and that thereupon he tooke his advantage to condemne the Booke that bare the Title of Portrait du Roy de la Grand Bretaigne. Secondly he said That (notwithstanding the aforesaid Admonition) the prevailing reason with him, not to suppresse or alter the Title of his Booke, was, because he thought he should haue lost much by it, if he had so done, his primarie Intention being, by this alteration of the Title, to make his owne Edition more vendible and hinder the Sale of Porrées, adding that it repented him he had not done it sooner, in regard there were foure thousand of Porrées Copies already disperst; and that those, with whome he convers'd, advised him to goe on with his former designe, notwithstanding S^r Richard Browne's Admonition.

Being by us demanded, by what Authority he assumed to himselfe, in the Title Page before some of his Printed Bookes, the Style of Interprete & Maistre pour la langue Françoise du Roy d'Angleterre regnant a present et de son Altesse Royal Monseigneur le Duc d'Yorke son frere. He answered he did assume to himselfe that Title by reason he had the Hon^r to read French to his Ma^tie^ that now is, when he was, Prince of Wales, and was also assigned to the same Employment towards his Highnesse the Duke of Yorke.

Whilst we were in the prosecution of this Businesse, my Lord Bishop of Galloway (who accidentaly came in upon a Visit) desyred he might lay it to Marsys Charge, the wronge and Scandall he had done to the Royall Partie of the Scotts by applying to the Whole Nation what the King in the Beginning of the 23 Chapter of his Booke restraines onely to Those that deliuered him up: And he accused Marsys to be an unfaithfull Translator, in positiuely rendring what the King suppositiuely speakes. For whereas in the English the Kings words are Those Scotts and the Latin hath it right Istos Scotos and Mons^r Porrée truly renders it Ces Escossois, Marsys makes it indefinite Escossois and whereas the King saith. If I am sold, wherevnto the Latin Translation agreeth expressing it Si ab ijs Divendar and Mons^r Porrée likewise truly renders it Si je suis vendu, And although all the Kings loyall Scotch Partie, and amongst them my Lord Byshop himselfe (as he saith) might and doe believe in their Perticular Judgements, that the King was Sold by that partie of Scotts which deliuered Him up. Yet Mons^r Marsys had he been a faithfull Translator of the Kings owne words, ought not to haue taken upon him the Libertie to leaue out those Limitations and Conditions wherewith it pleased his Ma^tie^ to expresse himselfe and by his vnfaithfull Translation render his Ma^tie^s expressions to importe that the whole Scottish nation was guilty of having absolutely sold their King. Wherevnto Mons^r Marsys (acknowledging that he had for this already been by some Scotchmen publiquely challenged and Questioned in the Streets and threaten'd with Blowes, and indeed not being able to Justifie the Fidelity of his Translation of which he had so much boasted, both in his Preface and elsewhere) answered, that He had already resolued to make an Apology for himselfe in that particular onely which he intended to Publish in Print.

We held it not amisse to Charge him further with some of those great Insolencies he hath Committed in all other the Bookes published in his Name, in particular, That in his Booke intituled A Narration of the Tryal and Murder of the late King (in which he had giuen himselfe the Title of Interprete & Maistre de la langue &c.) he calleth Queen Elisabeth an Impious Jezabell with other base expressions concerning Her, And taketh his liberty not onely to alter and omitt many parts of his Ma^tie^s Speech vsed at the tyme of his Murder of purpose leauing out those pious expressions which testifyed to the world in what Religion that blessed and Royall Martyr dyed; but likewise to adde of his owne feigning what he thought fitt; and to represent his Sacred Ma^tie^ as then expressing himselfe in such Langunge and Passion whereof the very Rebells and Murderers themselues neuer accused him.

In his Booke intituled Histoire de la Persecution presente des Catholiques d'Angleterre (to which he makes his Marginall Renvoys throughout all the Kings Booke) wee shewed him what vnfitt and scurrilous Language he had vttered of King James of euer blessed Memory, Grandfather to our Soueraigne that now is and of other his Royall Predecessours &c. (some particulars whereof are lined out in the Booke which wee now send) together with many other Passages concerning the Protestants of the Church of England, and the publique Lawes of that Kingdome, very Scandalous to be read and full of Falsehood.

To all which he answered, That he held himselfe obliged so to speake as he had done of Queen Elisabeth, King James &c. as he was a Roman Catholique and that what he had sayd of Protestants referred to the tymes of Queen Elisabeth and King James in which all the Protestants were of that Temper wherein he represented them, which Answer we conceiue to be a great Aggrauation of his Offence by extending those his false and Scandalous expressions to all the Members of the Church of England who liued or dyed during the Reignes of those two famous Princes.

And whereas we are commanded to vse our best endeauours to make stay of the Publishing of the said Translation and Preface; Wee beseech you to represent to his Ma^tie^s Consideration, That it cannot be expected wee should obteine the Fauour of the State here to Suppresse this Booke euen for that very Reason for which wee would suppresse it, which is the Dresse he hath giuen it to fitt the Popish Interest; and if this might haue been hoped it had not been now to be acted, as it hath not been vnconsidered. But there are already so many Copies dispersed that to efface this malitious Scandall Some other Course must be taken.

Hauing thus sent you this Accompt of the matter of Fact to the end you may informe his Ma^tie^ of our Proceedings herein; wee shall in the next place obey his Ma^tie^s Commands to certifie what upon Consideration of the whole Businesse we humbly Conceiue fit to be done in it.

We therefore humbly offer as the onely expedient in our Judgement, upon the daily experience of the mischeivous Consequences both here and in England of these Insolencyes of Marsys; That his Ma^tie^ will be pleased with the advice of his Councell to put in execution what this Inclosed Letter doth purport, and send the same Vnder his Royall Signet conteyning his Commands and Directions in this Businesse vnto S^r Richard Browne as his Resident and Publique Minister in this Place, which letter wee haue drawne up in obedience to his Ma^tie^s Commands, signified vnto us by one of yours of a late Date.

And this we humbly conceiue to be the onely way now left to repaire the Injuries done by this Marsys and sufficiently to Righte his Ma^tie^ in his Pious vindication, not onely of his blessed Father but likewise of his other Royall Predecessours, and Progenitors, together with his own Religious, Pious, and Royall Disposition and Intention.

Which we humbly beseech you to present to his Ma^tie^ as a Testimony of our Obedience to his Commands and a Pledge of our Zeale to the euer blessed Memory of our late Royal and blessed Master.

And so wishing you all health and Happinesse we Remaine

S^r

Your most humble Servants

Paris 4^th^ January.
Anno. 1650. s^o^. n^o^.

Chr: Hatton. Richard Browne.
Jo: Cosin. Geor: Morley.

Enclosed in the above letter was the draft of the instructions for Sir Richard Browne, which draft is still preserved with the above letter, and runs as follows:—

"Right" Trusty & Welbeloued,—Whereas wee haue been informed by diuers Persons (uppon their obseruation of the publishing and vttering so large a Proportion of that Booke, which was written by our Father of euer blessed Memory, and entituled *εἰκὼν βασιλικὴ*) hauing now passed three Impressions in the French Tongue in Rouen and Paris) That the said Booke is very acceptable vnto the French Nation and much approued and Desired by them in Generall; To the end that Right may be done to the said Booke and satisfaction to all such who justly esteeme and Value it, we haue thought it agreable to the great Regard and tender Affection wee beare to the Memory and Honour of our most dear and blessed ffather and to the Right Information of all those who desire to read and make vse of the Truth wisedome and Piety which is Conteyned in that Booke to take into our Consideration the Seuerall Translations already made thereof into the French tongue wherein wee find that of Monsieur Porrées entituled le Portrait du Roy de la Grand Bretaigne (being a True expression of the Title of our late Fathers Booke) first Printed at Rouen to haue *had* some mistakings, "and Errours" in it, which (as we believe) escaped him, through haste, and for want of a perfect vnderstanding of the English Tongue, although wee doubt not but his meaning and Intentions were good which wee haue accordingly accepted from him; But whereas there is another pretended Translation, and Edition, set forth by one of that Nation calling himselfe, Le Sieur de Marsys to which he feigns a Title of his owne Invention as followeth; les Memoires du feu Roy de la Grand Bretaigne Charles premier escrits de sa propre main dans sa prison. Ou il est monstre que le liure intitulé Portrait du Roy de la Grand Bretaigne est vn liure Aposté et diffamatoire. Traduits de l'Anglois en nostre Langue par le Sieur du Marsys & enrichis d'Annotations & de Renuois tres necessaires pour l'Inteligence de l'Ouurage.

Wee haue seriously considered thereof and forasmuch as wee find that the said Marsys hath not onely boldly altered the True Title of our Deare Fathers Booke (which being stiled *εἰκὼν βασιλικὴ*) is not vnproperly translated by Monsieur Porrée le Portrait du Roy de la Grand Bretagne) but likewise insolently averred in his owne New Title Page that the former Booke intituled (as it ought to be) is A Supositious "Booke" and defamatory Booke, meerely out of an vnworthy designe by his owne Confession to hinder the Sale of Monsieur Porrées Edition, and to deceiue

the Buyers by making them believe that this Edition of his is a new distinct Booke from that sett forth by Monsieur Porrée; And further that the said Marsys hath annexed to the said Booke an Advertisement wherein are many things Scandalous to the Royall Person and Honour of our late ffather; and that he hath been likewise vnfaithfull in his Translation of some particulars, and amongst others of that which concerneth the Scotts whereby he hath cast an Infamy upon the whole Scottish Nation; and hath moreouer added many malitious Annotations together with diuers Renuois to an Insolent Booke formerly printed by him wee haue therefore thought fitt to declare our just Indignation against this his Edition, and to disclaime it.

And whereas this Marsys hath in another Booke intituled a Narration of the Tryall and Murder of the late King (our deare and blessed ffather) taken his licentious liberty to stile himselfe Interprete & Maistre pour la langue Françoise du Roy d'Angleterre Regnant a present et de son Altesse Royale Monseigneur le Duc d'Yorke (which wee neuer allowed him) and in the same Booke not onely with false and vnseemely Language to abuse the Person of Queen Elisabeth of Blessed Memory, but to injure also our Deare and blessed ffather by altering the Speech which at the time of his Murther and Martyredome he vttered to the People, therein leauing out particulars of greatest moment Concerning his Honour and representing him with such Language and passion as was much different from that Ma^tie and Christian Piety wherewith he vnderwent that his Cruel and barbarous Martyredome and whereas a third Booke sett forth vnder the said Marsys name hath likewise come to our View intituled Histoire de la Persecution present des Catholiques d'Angleterre &c.; wherein besides his insolent and malitious Aspersions cast upon other of our Predecessours in the Crowne of England he hath likewise with very false, and Scandalous langunge abused the Person, and Actions of our most deare Grandfather King James of euer blessed Memory, and throughout the greater part of that whole Booke hath shewed little else but his owne Boldnesse and Ignorance. Therefore (all these foregoeing Particulars Considered) wee haue by the advice of our Councell caused the two last forementioned Bookes set forth in the said Marsys name, together withe the Title Advertisement Notes and Renvoys of the other Booke entituled Les Memoires &c. *being stiled from our fathers said Booke* to be publiquely burnt in our Isle of Jersey by the Hande of the Common Hangman. And wee doe disavow the said Marsys to haue any Relation to our Service enioyning you to discharge him from assuming to himselfe any title of dependance upon us or our Brother the Duke of Yorke. And to the end that so Inestimable a Jewell as our Fathers Booke is may be rendred to that Nation where you Reside for us, and who entertaine it with due value and esteeme as neere the Pure originall Lustre as may bee, wee haue thought fitt to giue order for a Translation and an Edition thereof to be prepared and Set forth by Mons^r Testard one of the Pastors of Bloys, an able learned man and well affected both to our blessed ffathers Honour and ours, and to the welfare of the Church of England. The Care in procureing whereof according to the True originall Copie wee haue Committed vnto our Chaplain D^r Cosin Deane of Peterborough. Our Will and Pleasure therefore is that you our said Resident shall as our publique Ministre take Notice hereof and upon all fitting occasions and opportunityes according to your iudgement and discretion shall divulge and Publish as well the Censures wee haue executed upon the said Bookes of Marsys as likewise our auowing and approuing of this Edition of Monsieur Testards Translation; wherein you shall giue *your* assistance to further and Promote it in our name and Interests, and upon all occasions shew such Respect and Kindnesse to the said Mons^r Testarde and any other whome he shall employ for the Publishing thereof as may agree with his and their Juste desires, or your carefull and Reasonable performance; And for so doing this shall be your Warrant. Giuen vnder our at Castle Elizabeth In our Island of Jersey.

To our Trusty and Welbeloued
S^r Richard Browne Kn^t &
Baronet Our Resid^t.

DR. LAING'S LIBRARY.

The sale of the late Dr. Laing's library is still in progress at the rooms of Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson & Hodge, and there is no falling off in the extraordinarily high prices. The dedication copy of Sir J. Dalrymple's Institutions of the Law of Scotland, in a magnificent contemporary Scotch binding, with the arms of Charles II. in gold on the sides, was purchased for the Earl of Stair for 295*l.*; the copy of Beza's Confessione della Fede Christiana, formerly in the possession of Mary Queen of Scots, sold for 149*l.*; the rare Catechism of Archbishop J. Hamilton, "Prentit at Sanct Androus, 1552," brought 148*l.* Among the other articles we must be content with noting the following:—Calvini Christianæ Religionis Institutio, first edition, 37*l.*; Confessione of the Fayth, 1561, bought for 5*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.* in Chalmers's sale, 62*l.* 10*s.*; Confession of Faith, printed in 1649 by L. Elzevir, 35*l.*; Confession of Faith of James VI., first edition, 22*l.* 10*s.*; Cook's Sot-Weed Factor, 41*l.*; Davison's Poems, bought for 5*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* in Lloyd's sale, 30*l.* 10*s.*; De Foe's Robinson Crusoe, first edition, 31*l.*; Dickson's True Christian Love, 16*l.*; Elder's Letter concerning the Marryage of Philippe of Spaine to Mary Queen of England, purchased in Bindley's sale for 8*l.* 8*s.* by Mr. Heber, 28*l.*; Elyot's Governour, first edition, 10*l.*; Ennetieres de Beaumé's Le Chevalier sans Reproche, 16*l.* 10*s.*; Excerpta Scotica, by Maidment, 21*l.*; Drummond's Poems, second edition, 50*l.*; Drummond's Flowres of Sion, 25*l.* 10*s.*; Eden's West and East Indies, 23*l.* 10*s.*; Exhibition Catalogues of the Scottish Academy for thirty-seven years, 14*l.*; Fergusson's Scottish Proverbs, first edition, 20*l.*; Foliot's Expositio in Canticum Canticorum, Charles I.'s copy, 29*l.* 10*s.*; Forbes's Cantus, second edition, 37*l.*, and third edition, 18*l.* 15*s.*; Fraser's Memorials of Montgomeries, Earls of Eglinton, 21*l.*; Gathering of Halie Signes, 20*l.*; Golagrus and Gawane, edited by D. Laing, printed on vellum, 71*l.*; Foxe's Book of Martyrs, first edition, wanting seventeen leaves, 50*l.*; Froissart's Chronicles, printed by Myddylton and Pynson, 28*l.*; Gowrie's Conspiracie, printed in 1600 by R. Charteris, 22*l.* 10*s.*; Hamilton, first Scotch Reformer and Martyr, Gatherings of Scripture, 14*l.*; Heath's Chronicle, 30*l.*; History of Sir Egar, Sir Grahame, and Sir Graysteel, printed in 1687, the edition of 1711 being the earliest known to Lowndes, 30*l.* 5*s.*; Horæ B. Mariæ Virginis, printed on vellum in 1523 for G. Hardouyn, 40*l.*; Heywoode's Woorkes, printed in 1562 by T. Powell, 30*l.*, and the 1566 edition, 9*l.* 5*s.*; Holland's Buke of the Howlet, edited by D. Laing, printed on vellum, 119*l.*; Innes's Critical Essays, on large paper, 16*l.* 16*s.*; Hall's Chronicle, first edition, 18*l.* 10*s.*; Hakluyt's Voyages with the Cadiz Voyage, 31*l.*; Higden's Policronicon, printed in 1495 by Wynkyn de Worde, imperfect, 19*l.*; Jenkins's Edinburgh Celebrities, 26*l.*; Kello's Confessioun on the Scaffold, 25*l.*; Jugement damour, an excessively rare romance in prose, printed in 1532 at Lyons by Arnoullet, 70*l.* 10*s.*: the MacCarthy copy sold for 25 francs 50 centimes; Knox's Admonition, 65*l.*, his Letter to Tyrie, 53*l.*, and nine other pieces of the Reformer for 112*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*; Leslie's Defence of Marie Quene of Scotlande, 53*l.*; Liturgy of Knox, printed in 1561 at Geneva, 45*l.* 10*s.*; James VI.'s Essayes of a Prentise in the Divine Art of Poesie, first edition, 38*l.*, and his Poetical Exercises, 16*l.*; Joannis Salesberiensis Polycraticus, from the library of Henry VIII., 22*l.* 10*s.*; Jonstoni Inscriptiones Regum Scotorum et Heroes, 16*l.*: Kay's Portraits, 43*l.*; La Fontaine's Fables, first edition, 101*l.*; La Gryve's Theriaque, dedication copy to Louis XIII., 32*l.* 10*s.*; Lauder's Dewtie of Kyngys, 77*l.*; Lithgow's Peregrination, Scotland's Welcome to Charles I., and six other pieces by him, 39*l.* 2*s.*; La Chau et le Blond, Pierres gravées du Duc d'Orléans, large paper, 35*l.* 10*s.*; Lebrun's Galerie des Peintres Flamands, 25*l.* 10*s.*; Livre des trois Filz des Roys, printed in 1508 by Nourry, imperfect, 20*l.* 10*s.*; Marot's Œuvres, printed by Dolet, wanting four leaves at end, 30*l.* 10*s.*; Marie Royne d'Escosse, Histoire et Martyre, 28*l.*, although Jadis's copy, supposed at the time unique, produced only 4*l.* 4*s.*; Milton's Poems, 1645, with portrait by Marshall, 21*l.*; Paradise Lost, first edition, 12*l.* 5*s.*; Paradise Regained, first edition, 5*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*; Molière's Œuvres avec des Remarques par Bret, 22*l.* 10*s.*; Montgomerie's Cherrie and Slae, printed in 1668 at Glasgow, 27*l.*; Lyndesay's Dialog betwix Experience and ane Courteour, printed in 1554 by John Scot, 121*l.*, Heber's copy having been sold for 17*l.* 10*s.* only; Malvill's Spirituall Propine, supposed unique, 28*l.* 5*s.*; Missale pro Regno Norvegiæ, imperfect, 132*l.*; Missale Ratisponense, 20*l.* 15*s.*; Monro's Expedition, Charles I.'s copy, on large paper, 24*l.* 10*s.*; Ogilby's Britannia, the dedication copy to the Duke of Monmouth, on large paper, 15*l.* 10*s.*; Perrault's Contes des Fées, Paris, 1781, on thick paper, 44*l.*; Poetarum Scotorum Musæ Sacræ, the dedication copy, 17*l.* 10*s.*; Prophesies of Scotland, first edition, 26*l.*; Psalmebog aff Hans Thomisson, 32*l.*; Maule's Registrum de Panmure, 31*l.* 10*s.*; Missale Pataviense, 20*l.* 10*s.*; Monteth de Salmonet's Histoire des Troubles de la Grande Bretagne, 14*l.* 10*s.*; Montgomery and Polwart Flyting, the earliest edition known at present to be in existence, 52*l.* 10*s.*; O'Connor's Rerum Hibernicarum Scriptores, 36*l.*; Painter's Palace of Pleasure, first edition, imperfect, 31*l.* 10*s.*; Ovalle's Chile, 17*l.*; Ovide les Metamorphoses, par l'Abbé Banier, Madame de Pompadour's copy, 52*l.*; Petrarca Geschicht über die Grisel, printed about 1470 by A. Sorg, 30*l.*; Pontus und Sydonia, printed in 1491 by Schönsperger, 50*l.*; A Collection of Broadside Proclamations, 25*l.* The eight days' sales have produced 10,152*l.* 17*s.*, and three other days will conclude the first portion of Dr. Laing's extensive library.

Literary Gossip.

The opening meeting of the Rabelais Club was held during the present week. The original members consist of Lord Houghton, Sir Frederick Pollock, Sir Patrick Colquhoun, M. Edmond About, Messrs. Walter Besant, Comyns Carr, John Collier, Duffield, Du Maurier, Thomas Hardy, Bret Harte, Henry Irving, Henry James, jun., Joseph Knight, C. G. Leland, Prof. E. H. Palmer, James Payn, F. Pollock, W. H. Pollock, Saintsbury, G. A. Sala, Louis Stevenson, Gordon Wigan, and a member of the Chinese Embassy. Future elections will assume the form of invitation, and there will be no species of candidature. Among the objects of the Club are the furtherance of the study of Rabelais, the formation of a Rabelaisian library, and the publication of works illustrative of Pantagruelism. It is proposed to form affiliated clubs in France and the United States.

It may be of some interest at this moment to recall that Boccaccio's story, on which the Poet Laureate has founded a short play, has already been treated in English verse by Mr. Coventry Patmore, under the title of 'The Falcon.'

Mr. John Payne has found time, in the midst of his labours on his translation of the 'Thousand and One Nights,' to complete a new volume of poems, which is now in the press, and will be published almost immediately. The volume will comprise about forty pieces of various lengths, from a sonnet to a poem of 1,500 or 1,600 lines, and will contain some specimens of the verse in the 'Arabian Nights' rendered in the original rhyme and form. Mr. Payne's version of the 'Thousand and One Nights' is steadily progressing towards completion; it will form eight or nine large volumes, and will contain from 10,000 to 12,000 lines of verse.

We are requested to state, in answer to numerous inquiries, that the subscription edition of Mr. Payne's translation of Villon's

poems was long ago exhausted, it having been taken up immediately after issue. Mr. Payne proposes shortly to publish the work in a more accessible form, with some slight expurgation, amounting to little over one hundred lines, and he has written a long and exhaustive critical and biographical study of the mediæval poet to serve as an introduction.

Mr. Parr, of the London Institution, has devised an ingenious method of keeping an account of books issued from the library and of the names of the borrowers by means of card entries. The method enables a librarian to ascertain in a brief space of time two important facts, namely, what reader has a given book, and what books have been borrowed by a given reader. By the use of coloured cards, which are cut with a horn or shoulder projecting from the upper edge and inclining some to the right and some to the left, various nice and useful distinctions in the character of the books lent out are indicated, and the work of reference is greatly abridged.

Mr. Whitley Stokes has recently printed at Calcutta, for private circulation, a volume of 'Indian Fairy Tales,' containing thirty stories, the greater part of which were told in Hindústání by native servants to his daughter, Miss M. S. H. Stokes, and afterwards written down in English by that very young lady, and excellently annotated by the late Mrs. Stokes. The book, which is full of instruction as well as interest, will probably be published here before long, edited, with a prefatory essay on the connexion of Indian with European folk-tales, by Mr. W. R. S. Ralston. It is to be hoped also that Mr. Murray will soon publish a new edition of Miss Frere's 'Old Deccan Days,' that delightful work being now out of print.

Messrs. Macmillan & Co. will publish early next spring a volume entitled 'The Liberty of the Press, of Speech, and of Public Worship; being Commentaries on the Liberty of the Subject and the Laws of England,' by Mr. James Paterson, barrister-at-law. This volume, following upon that which was published three years ago, but complete in itself, will include the following subjects: public meetings, sedition, the press, breach of privilege, contempt of court, libel, copyright, patent right, trade marks, the laws of the clergy, toleration, and dissenters.

At the last meeting of the Library Association, Mr. Cornelius Walford gave an account of his intercourse with librarians in the United States during his recent visit to America. Mr. Walford thinks that the library of the Supreme Court in Washington is the most complete law library in the world. He was surprised to find in the Albany State library very many important documents regarding our own city of London. The great library of Philadelphia was being transferred from an old to a new building. It is somewhat remarkable, in a country that has rejected the principle of hereditary right in so many points, that the librarianship of the Philadelphia library should be hereditary. Mr. Walford was not favourably impressed with the system of employing ladies in libraries. He thinks it is injurious to their health.

The death is announced of Mr. George Troup, who forty years ago edited the *Montrose Review* and subsequently the *Aberdeen Banner*, the organ of the local Evangelical party in the Church of Scotland. After a short newspaper experience in Ireland, in the year 1848 he became the first editor of the *North British Daily Mail*. Since that time Mr. Troup has been engaged in a variety of journalistic and literary occupations, and in 1873 he crossed the Atlantic at the head of a body of emigrants, who formed the New Kincardineshire Colony, in New Brunswick.

Shakspeare's 'Merchant of Venice' will be the subject of a public lecture, to be delivered at the Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi, this (Saturday) evening at eight o'clock, by Mr. Francis Storr, under the auspices of the Trades' Guild of Learning. It is hoped that these Saturday evening lectures, which have been very well attended, will be resumed after Christmas. On the following Monday evening (Dec. 15th), at the same hour, Sir Arthur Hobhouse, Q.C., will lecture for the Guild at the Chelsea Vestry Hall, on the 'Social and Political Condition of India'; the chair to be taken by Mr. L. H. Courtney, M.P. On Monday, Dec. 22nd, the Rev. Malcolm MacColl will lecture on 'England and Russia in the East,' and Mr. J. A. Froude will preside.

Mr. Richard Rowe, author of 'The Lucky Bag,' 'Episodes in an Obscure Life,' 'A Child's Corner Book,' 'Jack Afloat and Ashore,' and other works, died on Tuesday last at his house in Upper Holloway, in his fifty-second year. Mr. Rowe had long suffered from a very painful affection, cancer of the tongue, and death resulted from the effects of an operation intended to procure him relief. The deceased was a frequent contributor to *Good Words* and other periodicals.

The École Nationale des Chartes in Paris is going to bring out a series of fac-similes, which will comprise documents of all sorts, of all countries, and of all periods, taken from the various archives, libraries, and private collections in France. The first fasciculus, which is nearly ready, contains documents of the tenth to the sixteenth centuries, amongst which are to be found a Papal bull on papyrus, various diplomas of the first Capets, fragments of the romance of 'Alexandre,' poetical pieces of the Troubadours, and many other historical documents concerning the various provinces of France. As for the language of these fac-similes, there will be pieces in Latin, French, German, and Provençal.

Mrs. Leith Adams gives up the editorship of *Kensington* with the new year, but the new serial which begins its second volume will be from her pen, and is entitled 'Aunt Hepsy's Foundling.' The scene of the story is laid in New Brunswick.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. John Menzies, of Edinburgh, the head of the well-known publishing and bookselling firm of John Menzies & Co., which occurred on Saturday last. Mr. Menzies had for some time been in declining health. He was seventy-two years of age.

Messrs. W. H. Allen & Co. will publish about the end of next week a new book by Mr. D. C. Boulger, entitled 'Central Asian Portraits; or, Biographical Sketches of some of the Celebrities of the Khanates and the Adjoining Countries.' Among the portraits will be that of the Turcoman chief to whose skill the recent defeat of the Russian expedition was mainly due.

A new novel from the pen of Miss Iza Duffus Hardy, entitled 'Friend and Lover,' will be published by Messrs. Hurst & Blackett during the present month. It is in three volumes.

Dr. Adolf Schwarz, Rabbi at Karlsruhe, is preparing a critical edition of the Shealthoth (casuistical discourses on the Pentateuch) by R. Ahai Gaon (eighth century A.D.), according to the existing MSS., the earliest of which are in the Bodleian Library, in the Vatican, and in Paris. R. Ahai's work is the first post-Talmudical work known at present.

According to a prospectus which we have just received, Dr. Wünsche, of Leipzig, intends to bring out a German translation of the Midrashim. The first volume will contain the translation of the Midrash Rabbah on Genesis and on Ecclesiastes.

We are requested by Messrs. Macmillan & Co. to state that the portrait of Wordsworth, which appears on the title-page of Mr. Matthew Arnold's charming selection, was re-engraved by the late C. H. Jeens from a plate originally engraved by Lupton, the portrait itself being the work of the late Benjamin R. Haydon. These facts, inadvertently omitted from the plate on the first edition, will be duly recorded there in the next, but the publishers consider themselves bound to offer also a formal apology for their apparent, though unintentional, neglect of the distinguished artist's claims.

Mr. Furnivall writes:—

"Mr. Halliwell-Phillipps's partial statement in your last number calls for a few words of explanation from me. When I asked him, last autumn, for a paper or scrap for one of our meetings this session, he answered that he could not write a special paper for us, but would, instead, send us twenty-five early copies of his privately printed 'Memoranda on Midsummer Night's Dream,' which would be out just before our first meeting, so that we could discuss at it the fresh evidence he had found, which he thought settled the date of the 'Dream.' Accordingly, on the night of October 15th last, Mr. Halliwell-Phillipps's copies reached me, and were sent out to our leading members for discussion on October 17th. But as some of these members lived at a distance, and others saw that no discussion was needed to show that the fresh evidence as to the date of the play was worthless, the meeting was attended by many members who had not seen the evidence. I had, therefore, to read out the pages of Mr. Halliwell-Phillipps's book as a paper; and the evidence being only the fact that the line

Through hills and dales, through bushes and through breres,

occurs in canto 8, bk vi., of the 'Faerie Queene,' ed. 1596, p. 460, the full meeting had no hesitation in deciding unanimously that Shakspere did not necessarily borrow his Puck lines from Spenser, and that the date of the 'Dream' was not in any way affected by Spenser's line. As, then, Mr. Halliwell-Phillipps's 'Memoranda' was sent to us expressly for discussion at our meeting, and was treated exactly like any other paper of ours printed and circulated before the meeting—my own Moon's-sphere paper at our last meeting, for instance—your necessarily very brief report was justified in treating what really was a paper in fact, if not in name, as a paper. It should also be noted that the report does not mention Mr. Halliwell-Phillipps as 'the *reader*

of a paper,' but says only that one of 'the papers read' was by him, which, as all society men know, is more likely to mean 'written' than read by him. In some societies the secretary or other official reads all the papers by other men."

The well-known Icelandic politician and antiquary, Jon Sigurdsson, died at Copenhagen on the 6th inst., in his sixty-ninth year. His labours for the Arne-Magnæan Commission are perhaps the most noteworthy of his many contributions to the study of Icelandic literature.

Our attention has been called to a prospectus of a "Society of Science, Letters, and Art of London, with which is incorporated the Literary and Scientific Society of London, formerly of Coleman Street, E.C." We are not aware that the Coleman Street Society ever did any service to letters or science, and we fail to see what object the new Society, which has its local habitation at 42 and 44, Ennis Road, Stroud Green Road, Finsbury Park, is likely to promote that is not already fulfilled by existing societies in more central situations. The "Fellows" of the new association are, it seems, to be treated to a Latin diploma and a "gown collar."

Among new French books are 'Les Coulisses de la Diplomatie, Quinze Ans à l'Étranger,' by Jules Hansen; 'Lucie Rodey,' by Henry Gréville; 'Les Aventures de Martin Tromp,' by Raoul de Navery; the fifth volume of 'Dix Ans de l'Histoire d'Angleterre,' by Louis Blanc; 'Le Cléricalisme de 1789 à 1870,' by Émile Clairin; the fourth and last volume of 'Les Convulsions de Paris,' by Maxime du Camp; and 'Étude d'Ensemble de la Guerre Franco-Allemande de 1870–71,' by the Commandant Patry, giving a map for each of the 190 days of the war.

SCIENCE

Illustrations of the British Flora, &c. Drawn by W. H. Fitch, F.L.S., and W. G. Smith, F.L.S. (Reeve & Co.)

It was a happy thought of the publishers to bring together in small compass, so as to be readily accessible to students of moderate means, the whole of the woodcut illustrations of Bentham's 'Handbook of the British Flora.' Although the woodcuts are small, they are for the most part very characteristic; their chief defect consists in the entire absence of any scale of magnitude. A full index, with synonyms, is added, by which means the book can be used as an accompaniment to other works of a similar character. We have little doubt, when the fact of the publication of this useful book becomes known, there will be a steady demand for it, and that a new edition will be called for; hence it is desirable to call attention to the rather large number of misprints in the names of plants. This is an indication that the work in its present form has not had the benefit of Mr. Bentham's supervision.

M. JEAN BAPTISTE ALPHONSE CHEVALLIER.

This well-known pharmaceutical chemist, who was born at Langres on the 19th of July, 1793, has recently died, at the advanced age of eighty-six.

M. Alphonse Chevallier made himself first known by a 'Traité des Réactifs Chimiques,' which he produced conjointly with M. Payen. The success of this work was such that between 1824 and 1830 it passed through three large editions, and was increased in size from one to two volumes. The profits from the sale of this work enabled M. Chevallier to prosecute his studies and take up his pharmaceutical degrees. He was also elected a member of the Académie de Médecine. Aided by his friend M. Payen, he opened a laboratory, in which he carried out a large series of investigations on poisons. A case of poisoning occurred with acetate of morphia, which had been supplied by M. Alphonse Chevallier. He had then the hardihood to make himself the subject of a series of experiments with this poison, the results of which were published in the medical reviews. In 1823 he published, in association with M. Payen, a memoir on 'The Hop,' and another on 'The Potato in Health and Disease.' For the latter the Society of Agriculture of the Department of the Seine awarded him a gold medal. For years M. Chevallier devoted his attention to questions connected with the public hygiene, and published numerous memoirs in the *Annales de l'Industrie* and the *Annales d'Hygiène*. In 1829 he published 'L'Art de Préparer les Chlorures Désinfectants.' Several other works connected with the chemistry of pharmaceutical preparations and on chemistry in its applications to medicine were published. In 1825 he became the editor of the *Journal de Chimie Médicale*, and in 1850 he published his 'Dictionnaire des Falsifications des Substances Alimentaires, Médicamenteuses et Commerciales,' which he greatly enlarged in 1854. M. Alphonse Chevallier was one of the Administrative Council of the Society for the Encouragement of National Industry and of the Sanitary Councils of Paris and of Brussels.

SOCIETIES.

Geographical.—*Dec.* 8.—Right. Hon. the Earl of Northbrook, President, in the chair.—The following gentlemen were elected Fellows: Lieut.-General Sir J. M. Adye, Capt. H. S. G. Miles, Rev. J. Jordan, Messrs. J. T. Arundel, M. J. M. Flint, E. W. Johns, C. J. Longman, M. W. Mott, J. C. Rounding, A. W. C. Shean, M. Tait, G. Todd, J. M. Vickers, and F. Wyllie.—The paper read was 'A Visit to Nejd, Central Arabia,' by Mr. W. S. Blunt.

Geological.—*Dec.* 3.—H. C. Sorby, Esq., President, in the chair.—Rev. J. L. Carrick, Rev. T. Dowden, Rev. J. R. Taft, Prof. E. W. Claypole, Messrs. Syed Ali, W. E. Baxter, A. R. Boyle, R. Gascoyne, G. M. Henty, J. Marshall, J. Martin, C. Maxted, E. Provis, T. W. Rumble, O. A. Shrubsole, S. R. Smyth, and W. N. Walter were elected Fellows.—The following communications were read: 'On the Gneissic and Granitoid Rocks of Anglesey and the Malvern Hills,' by Mr. C. Callaway, with an Appendix on the Microscopic Structure of some of the Rocks, by Prof. T. G. Bonney,—'Petrological Notes on the Neighbourhood of Loch Maree,' by Prof. T. G. Bonney,—and 'On some Undescribed Comatulæ from the British Secondary Rocks,' by Mr. P. H. Carpenter.

Society of Antiquaries.—*Dec.* 4.—F. Ouvry, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—Mr. T. G. Elger communicated an account of two leaden coffins which had been discovered last August in a field called Tower Hill, about two hundred yards to the west of Sandy station on the Great Northern Railway. Mr. Elger conjectured that Tower Hill may be found to have been the cemetery of the Roman station.—Mr. R. Day communicated an account of a leaf-shaped bronze spear-head, 23 in. long by 2¼ in. in the widest part of the blade, which had been discovered while dredging the river between Queenstown and Cork, in the Blackrock Reach, about two miles from Cork. It was stated that a similar spear-head had been discovered six months ago, but had been thrown away by the dredgers as valueless.—Mr. G. Payne, jun., exhibited one of the most remarkable "finds" of Roman remains that have ever been laid on the Society's table. The locality where they were discovered is the site of a Roman interment, at Bayford, near Sittingbourne, Kent, which two years ago (May, 1877) furnished the materials of an exhibition of scarcely inferior interest with which Mr. G. Payne favoured the Society, and for which he received the appointment of Local Secretary. This second interment, which was opened on the 6th of November last, lay about twenty yards from the previous one, and nothing but the most zealous care of an accomplished antiquary and an experienced excavator could have exhumed the objects found in such marvellous preservation. Among the most interesting of these objects may be mentioned a square cinerary vessel of blue glass, of unusually large dimensions; a small pale greenish-blue glass jug, with a handle twisted at the rim into a loop; a pale olive-green glass bottle, height 9¼ in., with two handles, a very unusual feature; a bronze vase, a most remarkable object, height 10⅛ in., extreme width 6¼ in. The handle is of massive metal, and on it, in high relief, is stamped the nude figure of a man, an uplifted sword in the right hand, in the left is the scabbard, and over the arm is thrown a cloak; under the right hand is a decapitated ram or goat, legs uppermost, with blood dropping from the neck, the head having fallen at the man's feet. Between his legs reclines an ox, and next the left leg is seen the head of a boar, probably animals destined for sacrifice. Above the man's head the decoration is continued up the handle. Here a goat is figured galloping, over it are two animals of some kind, and above them is the figure of a man, seated, holding a crook in the right hand. The handle is encircled with a band of silver, and the rim is clasped by the heads of two birds, with eyes of silver, and the beaks drilled with holes as if to represent teeth. Along with these objects were urns of Upchurch and Samian ware, and a curious saucer of unknown delicate cream-coloured ware; there were also fragments of bronze strigils and a very curious kind of bronze rack, in the shape of the letter D, which seemed to have been used for suspending both the strigils and also a bronze bowl, of which fragments were exhibited.—Mr. R. S. Ferguson laid before the Society a Report on the archæology of Cumberland. In this Report perhaps the most interesting circumstance was the rediscovery of a Roman inscribed stone, found at Bowness on Solway in 1790, but which had since been lost sight of. Dr. Bruce was unable to find it, and omitted it in his 'Lapidarium.' Mr. Ferguson was fortunate enough to get a clue to it, and ultimately identified it. It now exhibits no trace of what forms the sixth line in Hutchinson's 'Cumberland,' vol. ii. p. 486, where the original discovery was recorded and the inscription itself egregiously misread. Mr. Ferguson doubted whether it had ever existed. It also appeared that the site of the Roman camp, which Hutchinson (ii. 346) states to have existed at Mowbray on the Solway, has recently been ascertained and identified. Its foundations have been excavated and laid bare in a field near Beckfoot, three miles from Mowbray, and close to Newtown. Mr. Ferguson exhibited fragments of a pewter chalice and paten, found during some alterations at Kirkoswald Church; also a MS. in Amharic characters, brought from Magdala during the Abyssinian war.

British Archæological Association.—*Dec.* 3.—T. Morgan, Esq., in the chair.—Several interesting documents relating to Wells Cathedral were exhibited by the Rev. Canon Bernard, among them being a little known grant by King Edgar of land at Stanton, Wilts, and attested by Dunstan and several dignitaries of the period.—Mr. W. de Gray Birch described an inscription on an external buttress of the same cathedral, announcing thirteen days of pardon for all who might pray for the soul of John de Putney.—Mr. Mann described some remarkable Roman

sculptures, consisting of architectural members, several very elaborately carved. These have recently been found at Bath.—Mr. J. T. Irvine reported the discovery of the foundations of the long-lost bell-tower of Lichfield Cathedral. The ancient records report that this stood in the Close, and that it was burned in 1315, since which time its site has been unknown. It has been found on the north side of the cathedral, near the Chapter House, in excavating for a new stable in the bishop's grounds. A mass of calcined flooring tiles was first met with, covered with a coating of melted bell-metal, and afterwards the foundations of the massive walls.—Mr. E. P. Loftus Brock exhibited a series of Italian salt-cellars of pottery of very diverse form, but identical with those noticed in English pictures of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, showing the generality of form in many articles of domestic use.—The Chairman concluded his paper on the results of the recent Congress, and Mr. G. R. Wright called attention to the much discussed question with respect to the birthplace of Anne Boleyn. He quoted from Spelman that she was born at Blickling Hall, and asserted that this might be taken as conclusive evidence, since he was so nearly a contemporary writer.—The proceedings were brought to a close by a paper 'On the Trethevy Stone, Cornwall,' by Mr. C. W. Dymond. This is a cromlech standing on a low well-defined mound, and presenting no appearance of having ever been covered over. All evidence is in favour of the belief that it was built as it now stands. A hole in the top stone may have been to receive the base of a cross in mediæval times.

Archæological Institute.—*Dec.* 4.—The Rev. J. F. Russell in the chair.—Mr. R. S. Ferguson sent a paper on the supposed sword of Sir Hugh de Morville, in the possession of Sir Wilfrid Lawson at Brayton Hall, Cumberland. The author showed that the story of the sword with which Sir Hugh de Morville kept guard in the transept of Canterbury Cathedral during the murder of Thomas à Becket, on December 29th, 1170 (o.s.), was connected with a gross error in the early history of Cumberland, originated in the 'Chronicon Cambriæ,' and amplified in Denton's MS. 'History of Cumberland,' written in the time of Elizabeth. Mr. H. Hinde has proved that there were several Hughs in the Morville family, and that the Hugh lord of the barony of Burgh was not the Hugh of Canterbury notoriety, for this latter Hugh was lord of Westmoreland and Knaresborough. Denton says that "the sword that killed Thomas à Becket was at Ishall in my father's time, and since remaineth with the house of Arundel." But Denton libelled the sword as the 'Chronicon' libelled its owner. The story seems to have its origin in a great sword sculptured on a monumental slab in Aikton Churchyard, Cumberland, said to be the tomb of Sir Hugh de Morville. One after another historians and handbook makers have added to or further mystified the matter. But it was reserved for one Thomas Carlile, a carver of Carlisle, to make a statue as large as life of Sir Hugh de Morville for the late Sir Wilfrid Lawson in 1801. This he set up at Brayton House, and in the hand of the figure he placed "the very sword" with which the knight "assisted in delivering the country from Thomas à Becket." After this statement by Carlile's biographer, the meeting was not surprised to see a basket-hilted Scotch broadsword, probably as late as 1745, bearing on each side of the blade the following distich, "Gott bewahre die auf rechte Schotten," which had been sent for exhibition by Sir Wilfrid Lawson. This sword was probably obtained by Carlile from Carlisle Cathedral, where some of the Highlanders were imprisoned in 1745. A sword which was long said to be the very sword of Sir Hugh de Morville has now vanished from the cathedral.—Mr. J. D. Grant sent a collection of vessels of pottery from burying-places in the Tinnevelli district of the Madras Presidency, and some notes upon them. The unsystematic manner in which these interments were made was remarkable, but the most usual plan appears to have been to pack the bones, which must have been previously denuded of flesh and integuments, in earthen jars, about 3 ft. 6 in. high, and bury them just below the surface. No stone implements were found buried, but some of the jars contained smaller vessels, such as those exhibited.—Mr. G. T. Clark sent some observations on Tonbridge Castle, *à propos* of the proposal to convert its area into building sites.—The Rev. J. M. Gatrill read a paper on a recent discovery at Greenhithe, and exhibited a human skull and pieces of pottery that had been found.—Mr. W. J. Bernhard Smith exhibited a string of beads and bugles of rock crystal, onyx, carnelian, lapis lazuli, &c., and some copper coins, early thirteenth century, all found in the bed of a watercourse in Oude. The resemblance of the beads to Anglo-Saxon examples was remarkable.—Mr. H. Vaughan sent some fine German and French keys for exhibition, and an Italian miniature of Peter Martyr, early sixteenth century.—Mr. R. S. Ferguson sent a ring dial, or *viatorium*, found in a bog in Dumfriesshire.—The Chairman exhibited some examples of stained glass, sixteenth century.

Linnean.—*Dec.* 4.—Prof. Allman in the chair.—Messrs. S. Wright, G. M. Thomson, J. G. Otto Tepper, H. B. Spotton, J. Cameron, Major Collet, and Sir S. Wilson were elected Fellows.—Mr. Carruthers exhibited a bottle of Pteropods (*Spirialis retroversus*), obtained in abundance by Dr. J. Grieve in the Gareloch, Ross-shire, July, 1879. The latter states they swam rapidly to the surface, rising with a perpendicular fluttering motion, and having reached the top they raised their wing-like appendages above their heads, and, thus upholding them motionless, would then drop quietly to the bottom.—Dr. M. Masters gave a communication 'On certain Relations between the Morphology and the Functions in the Leaves of Conifers.' Quoting the labours of Bertrand, M'Nab, and others, he proceeded to show that the leaves of the silver firs (Abies) are endowed with a power of motion, in virtue of which they are raised or depressed; on the contrary, the leaves of the spruce firs (Picea) are comparatively motionless. In the former there is a well-marked layer of "palisade cells," which are absent in the leaves of the latter. The author thus correlates these differences with varying degrees of functional activity and with adaptations manifested to secure to each leaf a favourable exposure to light, &c. Allusion was also made to the rotation of the "leader-shoots" of many conifers during the season of active growth.—Prof. P. M. Duncan read a paper 'On a Synthetic Type of Ophiurid.' This specimen was dredged by Dr. Wallich, Bulldog expedition, 1860, from a depth of 228 fathoms, off East Greenland. In shape and dental characters it approaches Amphiura; its spinules and arm hooks are those of Ophiothrix; and as regards accessory plates they resemble those of Ophiolepis. This remarkable Brittle-Star, named by the author *Polyopholis echinata*, well exemplifies the difficulty of asserting nearest affinities, when ambiguously it possesses characters of several groups; that provisionally assigned it is among the family Amphiuridæ. Prof. Duncan points out that such a form, although rare, nevertheless destroys the rigid lines of demarcation in the grouping employed by some authors.—Mr. C. B. Clarke followed by a paper 'On Indian Begonias.' This is supplementary to the author's account of the group in Sir J. D. Hooker's 'Flora of British India.' It treats of the classification of the whole genus (*i.e.* order) except Hillebrandtia and Begoniella, and it is maintained that it (the group) can be naturally divided into the six subgenera employed in the 'Flora of British India.' The author discards the differences in the stamens and styles for subgeneric characters, and employs exclusively the structure and dehiscence of the fruit.

Zoological.—*Dec.* 2.—Prof. Newton, V.P., in the chair.—The Secretary read a Report on the additions made to the Menagerie during October.—Letters and papers were read: from Mr. E. L. Layard, advocating the desirability of a fixed scale of colour for use among naturalists in describing the plumage and pelage of birds and other animals,—from Mr. R. B. White, on a mode of protecting plantations from the ravages of an ant (*Atta cephalotes*),—from Dr. G. E. Dobson, on some species of Chiroptera from Zanzibar, with descriptions of new and rare species,—from the Prince L. Lubomirski, on a collection of Shells made in High Peru by Messrs. Jelski and Stolzman,—by Mr. G. F. Angas, on two new species of Helix (Eurycratera) from south-east Betsileo, Madagascar,—by Mr. A. G. Butler, on some Arachnida of Madagascar and the Mascarene Islands, in which an account was given of a collection of spiders recently received by the British Museum from Réunion and Mauritius, through Mr. H. H. Slater,—by Lieut.-Col. H. H. Godwin-Austen and Mr. G. Nevill, on two collections of Land Shells obtained at Perak and in the Nicobar Islands by Surgeon-Major E. Townsend and Dr. F. Stolizka,—from Dr. A. Günther, containing a notice of a collection of Mammals and Reptiles recently received from Cyprus by Lord Lilford,—and by Dr. F. Day, on the Fishes of Weston-super-Mare.

Chemical.—*Dec.* 4.—Mr. Warren De La Rue, President, in the chair.—The following papers were read: 'On the Comparative Value of Different Methods of Fractional Distillation,' by Mr. F. D. Brown,—'On the Influence exerted upon the Course of certain Chemical Changes by Variations in the Amount of Water of Dilution,' by Messrs. M. M. P. Muir and C. Slater,—'On the Influence of Temperature upon the Decomposition of Bariumchloride by Potassium Oxalate in Aqueous Solution,' by Mr. M. M. P. Muir,—'On α and β Phenanthrene Carbonic Acids,' by Dr. F. R. Japp,—and 'On some Derivatives of Phenylacetic Acid,' by Mr. P. P. Bedoon.

Society of Arts.—*Dec.* 8.—The third lecture of his course 'On the Chemistry of Bread and Bread-Making' was delivered by Dr. C. Graham.

Dec. 10.—Sir J. D. Forsyth in the chair.—Six candidates were proposed for election.—Mr. W. Simpson brought before the Society the result of some recent explorations in the Jellalabad Valley in a paper 'On Art Vestiges in Afghanistan,' in which he described some interesting discoveries he had made with regard to the ancient art of that country.

Folk-Lore Society.—*Dec.* 9.—Mr. W. R. S. Ralston in the chair.—Mr. Coote read a paper 'On Catskin—the English and Irish Peau d'Ane.' The readers of 'The Vicar of Wakefield' are familiar with Goldsmith's reference therein to a folk-tale which he calls 'The Adventures of Catskin.' This tale, which has been long lost, Mr. Coote reproduced to the English public, and identified with *peau d'âne* and an analogous story which is spread through Europe, Russia and Albania included. Its origin was traced to a myth in the Rig-Veda.—In the discussion which followed, Mr. Ralston, though not agreeing with Mr. Coote's theory as to the origin of the story, pointed out that the author had discovered the English and Irish version which Dr. R. Köhler had set the whole staff of the British Museum to work upon, but without success. Mr. D. Nutt and the Rev. J. Long also took part in the discussion.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Mon. Asiatic, 4.
— London Institution, 5.—'A Recent Application of Organic Chemistry,' Prof. W. Odling.
— Institute of British Architects, 8.
— Royal Academy, 8.—'Anatomy,' Mr. J. Marshall.
— Society of Arts, 8.—'Chemistry of Bread and Bread-Making,' Lecture IV., Dr. C. Graham (Cantor Lecture).
Tues. Horticultural, 11.—Fruit and Floral Committees. 1.—Scientific Committee.
— Statistical, 7½.—'Is the Value of Money Rising in England and throughout the World? With Remarks on the Effects of the Condition of Trade on the Value of Money,' Mr. R. H. Patterson.
— Colonial Institute, 8.—'Past, Present, and Future Trade of the Cape Colonies with Central Africa,' Dr. E. Holub.
— Civil Engineers, 8.—Continued Discussion on 'The Passenger Steamers of the Thames, the Mersey, and the Clyde.'
— Zoological, 8½.—'Intestinal Spiral Valve in the Genus Raia,' Mr. T. J. Parker; 'Cæcum of the Red Wolf (*Canis jubatus*, Desm.),' Prof. W. H. Flower; 'Mammals and Birds from Madagascar,' Mr. E. Bartlett.
Wed. Meteorological, 7.—'Sand Storm at Aden, July 16th, 1878,' Lieut. H. H. Russell; 'New Form of Hydrometer,' Mr. G. Dines; 'Diurnal Range of Atmospheric Pressure,' Mr. R. Strachan; 'Curious Fracture of a Solar Radiation Thermometer,' Mr. G. M. Whipple; 'New Sunshine Recorder,' Mr. R. H. Scott.
— Literature, 8.—'Group of Hermes and Dionysos by Praxiteles recently Discovered at Olympia,' Dr. C. Waldstein.
— Royal Academy, 8.—'Anatomy,' Mr. J. Marshall.
— Geological, 8.—'Contributions to the Physical History of the Cretaceous Flints,' Dr. G. C. Wallich; 'Undescribed Fossil Carnivora from the Sivalik Hills, in the Collection of the British Museum,' Mr. P. N. Bose; 'Portland Rocks of England,' Rev. J. F. Blake.
— Society of Arts, 8.—'The Panama Canal,' Capt. Bedford Pim
Thurs. London Institution, 7.—'Christmas and other Festival Carols,' Mr. W. A. Barrett.
— Linnean, 8.—'Lichens of Dillenius, as Illustrated by his Herbarium,' Rev. J. M. Crombie.
— Historical, 8.—'The Holy Roman Empire; or, the Causes of the Disintegration of Germany,' Rev. A. R. Pennington; 'The "Jani Anglorum," the "Epinomis," and other Works of John Selden,' Mr. S. Robjohns; 'Historical Remarks on the Punishment of Women,' No. 2, Mr. L. Jewitt.
— Chemical, 8.—'Ballot for Fellows'; 'Specific Volume and Density of Water of Crystallization,' Mr. T. E. Thorpe; 'Analysis of Organic Bodies containing Nitrogen, &c.,' Mr. W. H. Perkin.
Fri. Royal Academy, 8.—'Anatomy,' Mr. J. Marshall.
— Philological, 8.—'*Dare*, to "give," and *dere*, to "put," in Latin,' Mr. J. P. Postgate; 'English Etymologies, correcting some of Prof. Skeat's,' Part II., Mr. H. Nicol.

Science Gossip.

Now that we are so soon to enter upon a new year, it is curious to look back a hundred years and reflect that at that epoch the number of known planets remained the same as in ancient times; since then, Uranus and Neptune, besides the whole group of small (now two hundred and ten in number) planets, have been discovered, whilst Mars has been found to be attended by two satellites, and three have been added to those of Saturn over and above the five known in 1780.

'The Fern Paradise,' Mr. Francis George Heath's illustrated "plea for the culture of ferns," after passing through five editions, is about to be reissued by Messrs. Sampson Low & Co., in shilling numbers, as a monthly serial. The first number will be published in a few days.

Of the comets of known period only one will return to perihelion next year, and that not until the autumn. It was originally one of the many discoveries of M. Pons, of Marseilles, but being rediscovered and its periodicity determined by Dr. Winnecke in 1858, it is by common consent known as Winnecke's comet. The period is about five years and a half, and it was last observed in 1875, when it passed its perihelion on the 11th of March.

It is with great regret that we learn that Dr. Percy has resigned the position which he has so long and so ably filled as Professor of Metallurgy in the Royal School of Mines. A pamphlet which has been circulated shows that Dr. Percy objects to his being removed to South Kensington. It is to be hoped that it will yet be possible to adjust this matter. The School of Mines cannot afford to sacrifice the first metallurgical chemist in Europe to the whims of the Science and Art Department.

The proprietors of the Isabellen Hütte, near Dillenburg, in Rhenish Prussia, have introduced a remarkable alloy of manganese and copper, which promises to be of considerable importance. "Mangankupfer"—manganese bronze—which consists of seventy per cent. of copper and thirty of manganese, is employed in small quantities to improve common brass, bronze, bell-metal, and the like, rendering them more compact, hard, and ductile. Mr. Parkes, of Birmingham, patented some years since a similar alloy to the above, but it does not appear to have been so effective as the Mangankupfer is stated to be.

We have received from the Geological Survey of India two parts of the 'Palæontologia Indica,' containing "The Fossil Flora of the Upper Gondwanas," "The Salt-Range Fossils," "The Productus Limestone Fossils." The illustrations are executed with remarkable delicacy, and the descriptions are given with considerable clearness. The *Memoirs*, Vol. XVI. Part I., received at the same time, is devoted to 'The Geological Structure of the Eastern Coast, from Latitude 15° Northward to Masulipatam,' by Mr. R. Bruce Foote.

M. J. Plateau commences in *Les Mondes* for November 13th an interesting memoir, 'Sur la Viscosité superficielle des Liquides,' a subject upon which he has been working for several years.

Prof. M. E. Plantamour gives in the *Archives des Sciences Physiques et Naturelles* for November 15th his 'Résumé Météorologique de l'Année 1878 pour Genève et le Grand Saint-Bernard.'

M. Henri Becquerel read at the Séance of November 17th, before the Académie des Sciences, an important memoir, 'On Atmospheric Polarization and on the Influence which Terrestrial Magnetism exercises on the Atmosphere.'

Prof. L. Meyer, of Tübingen, devised an entirely new method for studying the phenomena of diffusion. Mr. John H. Long has recently published at Tübingen a treatise 'Sur la Diffusion des Liquides.' By following Meyer's method he has obtained a large number of curious results of the greatest general interest, which are described in this treatise.

MM. J. Macé and W. Nicati report in *Comptes Rendus* that they have been enabled to examine for colour blindness 925 boys belonging to the Lycœums of Marseilles and Grenoble and of the College of Aix in Provence. Of these they found that thirty-three were Daltonians, or 3·57 per cent. They have also examined 241 girls, of whom one only suffered from colour blindness. It should be remembered that Dr. Favre found from twenty to thirty Daltonians per hundred individuals examined.

Lontin's incandescent wire lamp appears likely to solve the problem of applying electricity with economy as an illuminating agent. M. G. E. Hospitalier, in *La Nature*, describes this lamp, which consists essentially of an helix of platinum wire placed between two elastic terminals, which, when connected with the battery, elongate or contract the helix according to the amount of electricity used.

FINE ARTS

The SOCIETY of PAINTERS in WATER COLOURS.—The WINTER EXHIBITION is NOW OPEN. 5, Pall Mall East, from Ten till Five.—Admittance, 1*s.*; Catalogue, 6*d.* ALFRED D. FRIPP, Secretary.

INSTITUTE of PAINTERS in WATER COLOURS.—The FOURTEENTH WINTER EXHIBITION is NOW OPEN from Ten till Six.—Admission, 1*s.*; Catalogue, 6*d.* Gallery, 53, Pall Mall. H. F. PHILLIPS, Secretary.

The GROSVENOR GALLERY.—EXHIBITION of WATER-COLOUR DRAWINGS and ORIGINAL STUDIES by Living Artists will Open January 1st, 1880.—Admission, One Shilling; Season Tickets, Five Shillings.

EXHIBITION of CABINET PICTURES in OIL, Dudley Gallery, Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly.—The THIRTEENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION. Open from Ten till Five.—Admission, 1*s.*; Catalogue, 6*d.* R. F. M'NAIR, Sec.

Will Close Saturday, 20th inst.

EXHIBITION of PAINTINGS, WATER-COLOUR DRAWINGS, and ETCHINGS by the late EDWIN EDWARDS. Open from Ten to Five.—Admission, 1*s.*; Catalogues, 6*d.*—168, New Bond Street, W. R. F. M'NAIR, Hon. Sec.

DORÉ'S GREAT WORKS, 'CHRIST LEAVING the PRÆTORIUM,' 'CHRIST ENTERING JERUSALEM,' and 'The BRAZEN SERPENT' (the latter just completed), each 33 by 22 feet, with 'Dream of Pilate's Wife,' 'Soldiers of the Cross,' 'Night of the Crucifixion,' 'House of Caiaphas,' &c., at the DORÉ GALLERY, 35, New Bond Street. Daily, Ten to Six.—1*s.*

THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.—WINTER EXHIBITION.

This gallery contains rather more drawings than usual; but as a whole the exhibition is uninteresting, and if it be not below the average, there are comparatively few works here that the visitor will remember. Still Messrs. Boyce and Shields are the only noteworthy members who do not contribute, and the collection is the better for the presence of drawings by Messrs. Dodgson, the brothers Fripp, A. Goodwin, A. W. Hunt, W. H. Hunt, H. S. Marks, H. Moore, S. Palmer, F. Powell, Alma Tadema, and Wallis. Mrs. Allingham and Mrs. Angell sustain the reputation of the ladies, and seem to rebuke this ungallant Society, which tersely announces that it has no room for another "Lady Member." The association refuses to elect "female" artists to full membership, and barely tolerates the fairer sex in the grade of Associate Exhibitors. On the other hand, it must be admitted that the art of not a few of the male members is feminine enough in all conscience. Of amateurs and honorary members the Society can boast Mr. John Ruskin, Mr. Prescott Hewett, and H.R.H. the Princess Louise, all of whom lend their aid to this exhibition. The royal artist sends a number of goodly sketches, the merits of which justify her election.

In frame No. 28 we find Mr. Ruskin's *Drawing of St. Mark's, Venice*, a vivid and delicate work, but, as it is unfinished, it must not be judged as a specimen of draughtsmanship in perspective. The super-subtle disposition of the most delicious tints and tones of coloured marbles, white marbles, and sober gold mosaics is exquisite. The Byzantine symbols and gorgeous figures that fill the gilded semi-dome of the apse here are austere and yet lovely; while the carving of capitals and wall foliage is charming. We have here the ancient building in its unrestored state; it would be edifying if a camera would supply that which no artist could be expected to execute—a view of such parts of the building as have undergone "restoration."—Mr. S. Palmer has sent two drawings, *Western Shores* (352) and *Going to Fold* (360), the latter a poetical picture, conceived according to Mr. Palmer's wont, and dealing with a sunset of fiery gold behind huge purple hill tops, a rich and undulating foreground, full of colour, a Spenserian romance in landscape, profoundly pathetic, and, like its companion, almost Miltonic in its serenity.—Mr. Tadema's contribution is comparatively unimportant, yet it is rich in nearly all the true qualities of his art, and shows all his taste, tact in painting, and antiquarian lore. *An Old Bachelor* (356), an elderly Roman, is lying on a couch, at home, drowning remembrances of youth and drinking from a cup, while the fountain pours itself away to a marble basin in the floor. The visitor cannot fail to enjoy the fine rendering of an interior light which marks this picture; and the painting of metal and marble is delightful as ever.—Mr. Wallis sends five works, of which the most important is *Luca Signorelli* (122), the painter, a stalwart and astute-looking sedate figure ascending a narrow street of many steps, and preceded by his son, a gallant youth, who looks up to laugh with the pretty children who peer at him from the garden wall above. The father and son are on their way to the *atelier*, and the latter carries a book of studies. The dark and rich costume of the artist and the more brilliant dress of the boy contrast vividly with the white walls, dashed by spaces of sunny light. This is a powerful and artistic work. Not less acceptable is *Announcement of Marriage, Town Hall at Bruges* (258), a little piece sumptuously toned and soberly tinted. A bow-legged Belgian artisan, in a blue blouse and with shock hair, and his pretty bride have come to the office of the registrar of their parish, and a rakish clerk leers at the damsel. *Nearest the Door, Cathedral at Bruges* (264), by the same painter, is a fine artistic study in sad tones and sombre tints. The "serious" air of the whole and the rapt expressions of the women worshippers testify to the powers of the painter, and make this study a good picture. We recommend likewise *A Dutch Hoffe* (308), the sunlit court and corridor of a hospital, with demure figures and large, splendid flowers; homely utensils are strewn about. De Hooghe

would have been pleased with the ruddiness of the brick walls and tiled roofs, as displayed yet softened in the diffused splendours of the golden sunlight.—Mr. W. H. Hunt's work is a learned and vigorous specimen of firm modelling, a head in chalks, called *Study for a Picture from a Bethlehem Woman* (104). It is one of the few instances of a fine style.

Mr. A. W. Hunt's *Capel Curig* (17) depicts with characteristic force, learning, and pathos a winter torrent rushing over a ridge. The water is of a dark purplish colour, because it reflects a gloomy sky, the clouds of which lie low on the ground. The rocks and herbage in the foreground are delicately painted. *Whitby, Twilight*, (82) represents the estuary between the cliffs filled with ruddy and golden vapours, through which glow the more golden walls of rock and the red roofs of the tiled houses; above, but dimly seen, the abbey stands out against the sky, that grows paler while we look. It is a piece of magic in tint and tone. *Ben Sleoch* (106) represents a steel-grey pool at the foot of the great hill, that gleams in drifting vapours. The local colour, which is both true and broad, is most enjoyable. A still more valuable feature of the work is that it expresses a distinct idea made pathetic by means of art. The visitor should look at *Rokeby* (155), *Corte* (159), and *Whitby Harbour* (197), all by the same.—Mr. G. Dodgson has two little treasures of tone and grey rich tints in *Coast of Gower* (116), in which the sea is depicted breaking in wild weather on a rocky coast—its breadth is masterly—and *In Knole Park* (383). The artistic visitor will delight in the breadth and the greys of *The Thames at Mill End* (18) and *High Tide, Bracelet Bay* (202).—Mr. A. D. Fripp's *Harvesting, Dorsetshire* (211), country folks at work in misty sunlight near the coast, is a picture of great beauty on account of its tender, soft, and silvery tones and its delicately graded tints; the whole is as solid as it is refined. *Ludworth Cove* (404), a similar effect, lacks none of the charms of its neighbour, and is more ambitious.—Mr. G. Fripp is more than usually liberal this winter in contributing seven characteristic drawings. Of these let the reader study *Bowsey Hill* (163) as seen on a September morning, a wide expanse of corn just ripened, trees, and grey hillsides in silvery and glowing light, a beautiful picture that grows on the visitor, who is impressed by its simplicity and delicacy, its fine solid draughtsmanship and homely dignity. *On the River Teste, Hants*, (180) charms us by exquisite grey silvery tints and subtly graded tones and admirable drawing. The time is noon. The visitor should also look at *Cornfields, near Sonning*, (378) and *Water Meadows* (391).

Mrs. Allingham sends a number of beautiful and vividly-tinted drawings, sweet in their brilliant "Englishness," and solid as care and skill can make them. Of these our limits forbid notes on more than the following: The delicious *Wild Flower Sketches* (190*) is as delicate as it is bright and fine, and *Sea-side Plants* (302) is a worthy companion to the other group. A larger subject appears in *The Hayfield, Albury* (306), a charming rural idyl, with sunlight gleaming on bulky foliage, abundance of vapour in the air, distinguished by intense and high local tints. Excellent and vivid, homely and delightfully solid is *Hanging out Clothes* (406). *The Goat-Carriage* (144) is very pretty, and *In the Hayloft* (204) is a capital piece of light and shade.—All flower painters will delight in Mrs. Angell's beautiful, crisp, and finely drawn *Bramble Blossom* (313); her *Pinks in a Tumbler* (324) demands the same praise. Still better, broad and tender in colour, marked by a vigorous, frank, yet finished touch, is her *White Roses* (332). Notice *Bramble Blossom and Nuts* (370).—Mr. Marks's two pictures are masterly and rich in skilful draughtsmanship; they are *Study of a Head* (325) and *Study of a Head* (333).

Mr. W. Collingwood has a clever and attractive *Study for a Picture, the Jung Frau* (3), the snow-capped, rosy peak, with purple shadows in the fissures and ledges. It looks as if it had been done from nature originally, but owes something to the lamp, and the rosy tints are a little too positive.—Mr. A. Marsh's "*Wayfarers*" (6), two women crouching under a sandy bank in a wood, shows a picture made out of a large sketch by putting in figures and sentiment, if not sentimentality. The faces lack sincerity and gravity, and their pathos is overdone. Otherwise this is a meritorious work.—*Twilight on the North Coast of Cornwall* (9) is pleasing, as most of Mr. Jackson's contributions are. The modelling of the waves, however, is woolly, thus proving the absence of nature at the finishing. As a piece of art *per se* the work is broad and dignified.—Mr. O. Weber's *Sketch on the Thames* (14), cattle in a meadow in warm, grey daylight, is a capital landscape; the cows are but indifferently drawn.—Mr. C. Haag's *The Camel which Leads off Festival Processions* (22) is far more valuable than his works, technically speaking, commonly are, because it reflects nature with more than usual distinctness.—*Up in the Hills* (36), by Mr. T. Danby, though scenic, is impressive, for it renders with considerable vigour and some good colour the sadness of bare hill tops in strong sunlight.—Mr. H. M. Marshall's *Rye* (41) is a capital picture of air charged with white vapours, and renders shadowless weather in perfection; the river, boats, and houses are admirably drawn.—Mr. H. Moore's *Macrihanish Bay* (54) shows bare rocks left uncovered by the tide, and a breezy sea, full of clear light, deep tones, bright tints, waves sparkling in quick movement. We noticed *Kenilworth Common* (130), a sunset effect of much power; *Holy Island* (322), and a capital *Thunderstorm coming on, Brightlingsea* (423).—*On the Beach at the Mumbles* (62), by Mr. M. Hale, displays a little town clustered in the valley of an estuary, vaporous sunlight, and purple sands, all rendered with learning and skill, except as regards the figures, which are absurdly small.—Mr. B. Bradley's dogs in *Grouse-Shooting in Connemara* (73) are better than his men, and the men better than the landscape.—Mr. H. B. Willis's *Gleanings from a Farmyard* (78) are two sketches of poultry and cows; the former is spirited, and the delicate, opalescent shadows on the white hide of the cows are excellent. Mr. Willis is always happy in such charming studies as these.—Mr. C. Davidson's *Cliff at Hastings* (85) is a little black in the shadows, and not so searching as it might be, but it is undeniably solid and true.—Mr. A. Goodwin's *The Overgrown Park* (88), a castle in ruins in a sunlit wilderness, has powerful, brilliant illumination, and the drawing of the buildings, which are those of Sir T. Wyat at Allington, Kent, is first-rate. See the excellent art of *High Street, Salisbury* (118), by the same artist. It can boast of careful draughtsmanship, keeping, and fine tone, and Mr. Goodwin displays skill in painting the atmospheric effect of a fine but somewhat misty day. No. 139 is by the same; it is called *Aylesford, on the Medway*, and represents, with some flatness, groups of barges near old red buildings, such as the artist often affects. The picture is not seen to advantage here: it seems too refined for an exhibition of such mixed character as this one.

No. 143 is Mr. E. K. Johnson's "clever" view of a garden with figures, called *An Intruder*, and apparently painted in order to introduce a donkey and some vivid flowers. Able as the execution of the details is, this is hardly to be called a picture, because it lacks homogeneity and harmony of light and shade, tints, and breadth.—Mr. A. P. Newton's *Loch Corrusk* (?Coriusk) (153), blue peaks against a pale golden sky, is picturesque and effective. It is better painted than usual.—Mr. B. Foster's *On the Coquet, at Warkworth*, (199) is, though a little spotty, and opaque in some minor parts, very charming on account of its solidity, crispness, and freshness: a vista of a smooth stream between rocky and wooded banks.—*A Fishing Cove, near the Land's End* (274), by Mr. Hopkins, shows a beautiful nook, the name of which we will not betray, because we do not care to have it "opened up" by "tourists" and speculative builders. Mr. Hopkins charms us with capital foreshortening of boats drawn high on the rocks and first-rate modelling throughout, likewise rich and varied colour.—Mr. R. Barnes's *More Free than Welcome* (305), a pretty little girl in bed suddenly visited by a demon in the shape of a black kitten, is very funny and full of expression.—Mr. B. Willis's *Scene near Eastbourne* (338), cows in a sunny meadow, is excellent in its solidity and unwonted softness.—Mr. F. Powell's study, *Calm* (349), is deliciously poetical, lovely in its naturalness—a beautiful picture of golden weather. See *Sketch on the Coval Hills* (344), *Sketch, Wave on the Shore* (327), a finely drawn and modelled breaking wave, falling, as if after a storm, strongly, heavily, rhythmically, and yet without an apparent cause or impulse. Lastly, by this artist, see *A Sketch, Shore* (358).

SIR WILLIAM BOXALL, R.A.

By the death of this artist, on the morning of the 6th inst., the country loses one of the most original of her portrait painters, one of the few modern men in his branch of the profession who possessed a distinct style—a style immeasurably more valuable than the ordinary handicraft of portraiture—and the Royal Academy is deprived of one of the most accomplished of its members. Sir W. Boxall's fondness for literary and antiquarian studies interfered in later life with the exercise of an artistic genius which was, nevertheless, innate, and not, as with many of our painters, the manifestation of powers directed to art by extraneous circumstances, and which, if otherwise employed, would be at least as successful as in that career of which the Royal Academicianship is often the goal and sometimes the grave.

Boxall's antiquarianism was essentially æsthetic, and he studied pictures because they were pictures, not, as is so frequently the case with critics and antiquaries, because they were subjects for the exercise of mental energies, capable of finding an outlet in something else. Having the pictorial instinct, he was much more of an artist than Sir C. Eastlake, whom he succeeded in charge of the National Gallery, but he was very much less of a scholar. Unluckily he had too little creative faculty, and was too fond of antiquarian studies to make a decided mark in either direction. A man of the finest taste and subtle sense of beauty and character, he painted in a noble fashion lovely and graceful ladies, gentlemanly and refined men, statesmen, and *littérateurs*, and his portraits were beautiful because of his exquisite feeling for the most delightful charms of tone and colour. A less severe draughtsman, and possessing less pathos and poetic invention, he was almost the Corot of portraiture, and his style was as superior to the dandyism of Sir F. Grant as it was to the prose of Shee and Beechey, the meretricious fervour and occasionally tawdry graces of Lawrence, the sturdy cleverness of Raeburn, Watson Gordon, and Gilbert Stuart. We think that, on the whole, Boxall came nearer to Gainsborough than any other modern portrait painter. His portraiture differed from Reynolds's rather in manner than in style, in strength than in spirit; but Boxall had far less power, variety, energy, and frankness than Sir Joshua. The sentiment, if not the affectations, the grace and the delicacy, the labour that was concealed, the veiled brilliancy and really sumptuous colour, the exquisite sensitiveness to tones that is betrayed in pearly greys and glowing whites, pallid azures and shimmering reds, which distinguish Gainsborough reappear in Boxall's pictures.

His administration of the National Gallery owed not a little of its distinguishing features to circumstances beyond his control, and he was not wholly fortunate in the acquisition of the large 'Christ blessing little Children,' of which it may be said that it requires a larger knowledge than the ordinary of Rembrandt's painting before the student can be induced to accept it as Van Rhyn's at all.

Boxall was born, we are told, on the 26th of June, 1800. The son of an exciseman employed in Oxfordshire, he was educated in no very thorough manner at the Grammar School of Abingdon, then unreformed. He entered the Schools of the Royal Academy in 1819, his eighteenth year; he passed through the entire curriculum of those schools, and went to Italy in 1827, returning in 1828 or 1829.

"W. Boxall," then living in London Street, Fitzroy Square, first exhibited at the Royal Academy in 1823, No. 46, 'Jupiter and Latona,' A 'Portrait of Master Maberley' accompanied it, and indicated the artist's practice in portraiture. 'The Contention of Michael and Satan for the Body of Moses' and two portraits were shown in the next year. Nothing followed until 1827, when 'A View of the Turl, Oxford,' and 'A Portrait' were exhibited. 'Milton's Reconciliation with his Wife' was the work shown in 1829, with the portrait of Stothard. 'The Disowned,' a picture of 1830, showed persistence in higher lines of study than portrait painting, and it had a good place, next to Turner's 'Jessica' and a picture by G. Cruikshank. In the same year Turner sent 'Pilate washing his Hands,' 'Sun rising through Vapour,' 'Calais Sands,' 'Palestrina,' and 'Orvieto.' Mr. Linnell sent portraits, Constable landscapes; Etty had 'The Storm,' one of his *quasi*-heroic pictures, Callcott a coast scene; Mulready, 'The Dog of Two Minds' and 'Returning from the Hustings'; Wilkie, his 'Portrait of George IV. in "Highland Costume"'; Stothard contributed the beautiful 'Bower of Diana' and a Scotch landscape; E. Landseer, his 'Attachment,' now better known by another name; Maclise sent portraits of Campbell, Miss Landon, the Princess Sophia, and Mrs. S. C. Hall. Of the then members of the Royal Academy not a single man survives, and the only exhibitors of note still among us are Mr. Linnell and Mr. Richmond.

In 1831 appeared 'Lear and Cordelia,' which was engraved in 'Finden's Gallery'; and about this time Boxall produced a certain number of book illustrations, which, being engraved by good hands, are prized by collectors. Though he afterwards did a little more in this way, and painted 'Hope,' a pathetic allegory, likewise 'Geraldine,' a piece of poetic sentiment, he thenceforward devoted himself almost exclusively to portraiture. He gave us fine and just portraits of Wordsworth, Savage Landor (1852), C. Fielding, A. Cunningham, and David Cox (1857). His portrait of Mr. F. Huth is one of his best works, and has been admirably engraved; and he executed the excellent likeness of John Gibson, the sculptor; while a well-known picture of the Prince Consort was painted for the Trinity House in 1859. Boxall was elected an A.R.A. in 1851, R.A. in 1863; he succeeded Sir C. Eastlake in the directorship of the National Gallery in 1865, and held that post until 1874, when he abandoned it because his health did not allow of the journey and researches which the office demands. He was knighted in 1867. He was one of the most amiable of men, greatly beloved by his family and intimate friends.

THE EXCAVATIONS AT OLYMPIA.

I propose going over some of the additions made to our knowledge of late. The head of Queen Hippolyte, which occurs on a metope, and which I mentioned last June, is identified not by the head-dress or the features, but only by her tresses. Hercules appears to have seized his antagonist by the hair. Of the *chlamys* of the statue of Apollo on the western pediment a considerable part has been found. It is a portion of the back, and the dull red colour with which it is covered is admirably preserved, for it was protected by the arm, leg, and body of the wearer from the weather, and when it tumbled down it fell in a lucky spot, and forms a valuable specimen of ancient polychromy. Of five Roman portrait heads, exceedingly damaged, one of the Emperor Trajan is especially remarkable.

Among the many bronze offerings the statuettes of charioteers and riders are especially noticeable. The older ones (those of the seventh and eighth centuries) wear hats with broad brims to shade them from the sun of Olympia; those of the sixth century a high bonnet with a peak bent back, and their figures are more thoroughly worked. The riders press their thighs close to their horses; the charioteers bend their knees so as to keep steady while the chariot sways from side to side; the reins are tied to the rail (ἄντυξ) of the seat (δίφρος); the later the chariots the more elegant and the lighter their make. A valuable bronze statuette represents Apollo as a beardless youth, with long flowing hair and a head-dress in shape like a basket; the arms are close to the sides; the left foot is advanced. A quantity of bronze vessels, tripods, &c., have been found in the older Prytaneum; in other places, however, only those portions which were most enduring, such as handles and figures in relief—for instance, a handle formed of a winged figure in the Assyrian style, the front part of a winged griffin, griffin heads, a winged gorgon in relief, a lion couchant, a double-faced sphinx rampant.

To turn to the buildings. Of the great altar of Zeus, which Pausanias says was 125 ft. in circumference, some fragments have been found, it is supposed, east of the Pelopium (*Athen.*, Aug. 2nd). They are circular in form, and occupy exactly the centre of the Altis. The south-eastern hall (*Athen.*, March 1st, March 15th, July 5th), destroyed by fire, was built over in Roman times, and the site occupied by baths and dwellings. It is conjectured that here we have the remains of the Leonidæum mentioned by Pausanias. The south-western hall has a single nave, not a double, like the south-eastern and the hall of the Echo. It was the eastern side which was formed by a wall, and the thirty-eight Ionic columns of Porus stone stood on the west, at intervals of 2¼ mètres. On the west one entered the hall by a flight of steps. Capitals have been discovered, and many pieces of the architrave, the cornice and the sima, the latter beautifully made in terra-cotta. The columns have square plinths of the fourth century before Christ. The southern hall, on the other hand (*Athen.*, July 5th), is Roman; it has two naves and a back wall on the south, Corinthian columns inside, and Doric outside. To these four halls must be added a fifth, the western hall, between the western wall of the Altis and the Byzantine church.

Of the inscriptions found those mentioned by Pausanias are the following: One of the many offerings of Micythus with the donor's name, the black marble pedestal of the statue of Pythocles executed by Polycletus; bronze tables on the victories of the Hellanodicus Troilus which are celebrated in distichs; the pedestal of the bronze *quadriga* of Cyniska (*Athen.*, Aug. 2nd), which was made by Apelleas, the son of Callicles of Megara; pedestals of one of the statues of the Zanes and of the statue of Critodamus, both works of Cleon of Sicyon; finally, a bronze lance head, offered by the Tarentines from booty taken from the Thurians.

Julius Schubring.

Fine-Art Gossip.

One of the remarkable features of the forthcoming Grosvenor Gallery Exhibition will be a collection of about sixty drawings by members of the Society of Water-Colour Painters of the Hague, including works by MM. Maris, the well-known animal painter, and his brother, the figure-painter of Amsterdam; Neuhuys, Bosboom, the church painter, Bloomers, Roelofs, the Dutch Cattermole, Bisschop, Ter Meulen, Henkess (an interior with figures), Artz, Israëls, Van de Backhuizen, Borselen, Du Chattel, Sadee, and others; likewise M. and Madame Mesdag. These examples are mostly of great merit and extreme beauty, and, as a whole, such as will very promptly dissipate the insular notion of our *dilettanti* that art in water colours is not practised with success out of England!

The National Gallery in Edinburgh was reopened on Monday last, and a thoroughly revised reprint of the authorized catalogue has been prepared for the use of visitors. Seventeen pictures have been added; among these one by Lorenzo di Credi and a winter scene by Van Avercamp, both of which were bequeathed to the gallery by Dr. David Laing.

M. Delaunay has been elected to fill the chair in the Académie des Beaux-Arts which was made vacant on the death of M. Alexander Hesse. M. Delaunay was born in 1827; he became a pupil of Lamothe and H. Flandrin, and he obtained the Prix de Rome in 1856. Among his more important works are 'La Leçon de Flûte,' 1859, and 'Peste de Rome,' which is now in the Luxembourg. He has executed some frescoes in the Panthéon and numerous other churches.

Messrs. Chatto & Windus will shortly publish 'Rowlandson the Caricaturist,' by Mr. J. Grego, the complementary volume to the same author's 'James Gillray,' a popular exposition of the caricaturist's life and works. Like the latter, the new publication contains numerous fac-simile illustrations.

To show that the indignation affected by some Italian journalists at the interest we have expressed in regard to the preservation of St. Mark's, Venice, does not represent the feelings of the artists of that nation, we translate a letter of suggestion by a Venetian painter, Signor Angeli Alessandro, which appeared in the *Gazzetta di Venezia*. The very sensible suggestions of Signor Alessandro are conceived in the true artist's spirit:—"1. That with all possible speed a general invitation be sent to the most distinguished architects of all nations to assemble, in order to consult with our native architects on a project of such universal importance as the preservation of St. Mark's. 2. That an order be given to suspend the restoration which is in progress in the church, whether in mosaic or otherwise, till the above-mentioned international conference has taken place and opinions have been obtained on the project which has caused so much alarm. 3. That the strictest supervision be exercised in order that not the smallest piece of mosaic be moved from its place on the surface of the basilica, and the greatest care be taken to keep these relics from harm and damage."

The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings is, we understand, about to move in the matter of the rebuilding of Temple Bar, which was promised when that structure was pulled down and the stones severally marked and numbered, in order to the reconstruction of the relic of Wren's work—an historical remain of very high interest. There can be no doubt of the desirability of reconstructing the old bar; this task must be done some day, and it seems poor policy to leave it undone.

The death is announced of Knud Baade, a Norwegian by birth, who was educated at Copenhagen, but went in 1836 to Dresden and thence to Munich, where he enjoyed a considerable reputation as a landscape painter. The Düsseldorf artist Hübner has also died lately.

MUSIC

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY.

The widespread interest excited by the published announcements concerning the approaching crisis in the history of this association should convince its members that the musical public still regard it with feelings of the deepest sympathy. The Sacred Harmonic Society is indeed bound up closely with the annals of musical progress in this country. It is identified with the rise and development of interest in choral music among amateurs. Incredible as it may appear, in 1832, when the Society commenced operations at the Gate Street Chapel, Lincoln's Inn Fields, the Cecilian Society was the only public association representative of choral music in London. There were the Lenten oratorios at the principal theatres, but the performances were compounded of elevating and debasing elements in strange and horrible union. The Antient Concerts appealed only to a select few, and even here things were done the very idea of which would now send a shudder through every right-minded lover of music. It must have been in fear and trembling that the promoters of the new institution launched their enterprise, and it says not a little for the firmness and zeal displayed in its conduct that the seed sown actually took root in soil apparently so unfruitful. For the space of a quarter of a century the Sacred Harmonic Society had practically no rivals, and during that period no excuse would have been needed had those responsible for its fortunes confined their attention entirely to the task of popularizing the masterpieces of Handel and other composers of the first rank. But amid the labours incidental to this effort, time and opportunity were found to pay homage to contemporary talent. In 1843 Spohr's oratorio, 'The Fall of Babylon,' composed for the Norwich Festival, was performed at the Hanover Square Rooms before an audience of less than two hundred persons. The slight offered to so eminent a musician was considered sufficient ground for giving an invitation to Spohr to conduct a performance of his work in Exeter Hall. This incident is referred to in glowing terms in Spohr's 'Autobiography.' Similarly Mendelssohn's 'St. Paul' was produced without the slightest hesitation in 1837, and from that year until 1847 every new sacred composition by this master was seized upon with avidity by the Society. By such means its fame was spread, and the organization came to be recognized as the finest of its kind in Europe. But strangely enough the growth of musical culture and the rise of rival institutions, instead of acting as incentives to fresh and more vigorous effort, seem to have been taken as sufficient cause for the abandonment of all attempt to lead public opinion. The policy of stagnation pursued for the last twenty years could have but one result in the end. If we have neither a Spohr nor a Mendelssohn at the present time, there are at least a few composers whose works are worthy of a hearing. When Signor Verdi visited London to produce his Manzoni Requiem, the Sacred Harmonic Society should have taken the initiative in the matter. Why has the name of Johannes Brahms never figured in its programmes? Why is English music, as represented by the later oratorios of Prof. Macfarren and the works of Bennett and Sullivan, completely ignored? Or, to turn from the present to the past, does the new-born interest in the splendid legacy left by John Sebastian Bach find no echo in the hearts of the directors? Are not the neglected oratorios of Handel — 'Jephtha,' 'Saul,' 'Joshua,' 'Esther,' or 'Belshazzar'—worthy of an occasional revival? These and similar questions have been addressed frequently enough to the functionaries at Exeter Hall, but no favourable reply has been vouchsafed. At a time when the boundaries of musical thought and action are being extended in every direction, the Sacred Harmonic Society alone gazes from Dan to Beersheba, and finds that all is barren. Of course there is a ready answer to every protest against the existing order of things, but it cannot be accepted as a complete vindication. It would be lamentable were an institution that has rendered splendid service to the cause of art to be allowed to die of inanition. If advantage is taken of the present crisis to reorganize and to start on a fresh basis, a long career of public usefulness may yet be in reserve for the historic Society. All lovers of music will fervently hope that the requisite zeal, foresight, and readiness to make sacrifices for the purpose in view may be forthcoming. The time for action has all but arrived, and the executive will not disdain at such a moment any counsel or criticism offered in a friendly spirit.

It would be ungracious, under the circumstances, to carp at the scheme put forward this season, but it is obvious that the performances will demand only brief notice, as the works to be given are as familiar as household words. As regards the rendering of 'Judas Maccabæus' yesterday week, it was noticeable that the chorus sang with greater vigour and energy than usual, though a want of precision in attack was still observable among the soprani. It cannot be said that the principal vocalists engaged gave unqualified satisfaction. Miss Julia Wigan failed to render justice to her solos, possibly in consequence of nervousness, and the voice of Mr. Bridson is scarcely powerful enough for Exeter Hall. As a young artist, Mr. Bridson should be warned against the besetting sin of altering the text of the composer for the sake of displaying high notes. Madame Lemmens Sherrington, Miss Julia Elton, and Mr. Edward Lloyd sang with their usual excellence, Mr. Lloyd creating much enthusiasm by his delivery of "Call forth thy powers," "How vain is man," and "Sound an alarm." There was a large but not crowded audience. Handel's martial oratorio at one time ranked next in popularity to the 'Messiah,' but it is now exceeded in public estimation by 'Elijah,' 'Israel in Egypt,' and perhaps one or two others.

CRYSTAL PALACE CONCERTS.

Schumann's Fourth Symphony (in D minor), by the performance of which at Sydenham last Saturday the directors redeemed their promise of giving the whole of Schumann's symphonies in regular order, occupies a peculiar position among its composer's works. Though not finally completed till 1851, it was fully sketched in 1841, soon after Schumann had written his first symphony, in B flat. It therefore really preceded by several years the symphonies in C and E flat, and may be regarded as the second symphony rather than the fourth. While inferior to the symphony in C in emotional depth, and to that in E flat in melodic charm, the symphony in D minor is quite as characteristic of its composer as either of the companion works just named. A certain rugged power is its distinguishing feature, especially in the first and third parts. In form it is irregular. Schumann has entitled it "Symphony in one movement," and the different sections which correspond to the ordinary four movements of a work of this class are here connected not merely by the fact that they follow one another without interval, but also because the same themes recur in different parts of the work, a portion of the introduction being used in the "Romanze," and the chief theme of the *finale* being an episodical subject from the first *allegro*. In spite of the fact that distinct reminiscences of Beethoven are here and there to be met with, the general impression produced by the work is one of great originality; it is neither the most pleasing nor the finest of Schumann's symphonies, but it is one to which musicians will always listen with interest.

M. Camille Saint-Saëns, a musician distinguished alike as composer and virtuoso, made his first appearance at the Crystal Palace at this concert, playing the solo part in his own Third Concerto for piano and orchestra. This work, though adhering to the traditional three movements of the concerto form, deviates so much from this form in its details that we are rather disposed to term it a Rhapsody for piano and orchestra than a concerto, as that word is commonly understood. The first *allegro* is clever and ingenious rather than charming; the chief theme, as pointed out by the annotator in the programme, resembles the opening of Schubert's Symphony in C; and so much episodical matter is introduced as to destroy any feeling of unity of design. The following *andante* is much more interesting; the principal subject is beautiful alike in its melody and harmony; but the *finale*, though full of life and spirit, is somewhat *bizarre*, and the impression left by the entire work is not wholly satisfactory. It is only just to the composer to say that the orchestration is throughout masterly. The solo part, which is enormously difficult, was played by M. Saint-Saëns with a finish and taste which cannot be overpraised. Whatever might be thought of the work, there could be no two opinions about the playing. Later in the concert M. Saint-Saëns conducted his "Poëme Symphonique," entitled 'Le Rouet d'Omphale.' This little piece of programme music, the subject of which, as the composer informs us in the score, is the alluring power of woman, and the triumphant victory of weakness over strength, is far more attractive than the concerto. It makes no pretensions to grandeur, but it is extremely melodious, clear in its workmanship, and delightfully scored.

The vocalist on Saturday was Madame Sophie Löwe, an established favourite at Sydenham, who sang "Deh vieni" from 'Figaro' and two songs from Schubert's 'Müllerlieder' with much taste. The concert concluded with a remarkably fine performance of the 'Tannhäuser' Overture, in which, as in all the orchestral pieces, Mr. Manns's band once more showed itself worthy of comparison with any body of instrumentalists in the country. No finer renderings of symphonic music can well be imagined than those which have been heard during the present series of concerts.

This afternoon Mr. Henry Leslie's Choir will sing, and the principal part of the concert will be occupied by a performance of Mendelssohn's music to 'Antigone.'

Musical Gossip.

The fourth of Mr. Boosey's fourteenth series of ballad concerts was given at St. James's Hall last Wednesday evening. The vocalists announced were Madame Edith Wynne, Miss Mary Davies, Madame Antoinette Sterling, Miss Hope Glen, Messrs. Sims Reeves, Hollins, Santley, Alfred Moore, and Maybrick.

The sixteenth trial of new compositions by the Musical Artists' Society took place last Saturday at the Royal Academy of Music. The most important works played were two string quartets, to one of which was awarded the prize offered by the Academical Board of Trinity College, London, the other having been specially commended on the same occasion. The prize quartet, by Mr. Charles E. Stephens, is a vigorous and thoughtfully written work, the treatment of the subjects showing the hand of a musician. The companion work, by Mr. Arthur Carnall, is manifestly inferior, though not without some good points. A Sonata in B flat for pianoforte and violin by the late Henry Westrop served to increase our surprise at the want of recognition under which this composer suffered during his lifetime. The works from his pen which have come under our notice are distinguished by a delightful flow of ideas, spontaneity in the treatment, and poetic feeling.

But Westrop was of a retiring disposition, and this added to the difficulty ever experienced by English composers who restrict themselves to the purer forms of art in obtaining a hearing for their utterances.

THE programme of last Saturday's Popular Concert included quartets by Mozart and Beethoven and piano solos by Schumann and Chopin. Mdlle. Janotha reappeared at this concert. On Monday Mendelssohn's Quartet in A minor, Op. 13, and Haydn's in G, Op. 77, No. 1, were the principal works performed. Mdlle. Janotha gave a remarkably quiet and unaffected reading of Beethoven's Sonata in E minor, Op. 90, and the concert concluded with a couple of solos for two pianos—Reinecke's 'La Belle Griselidis' and Raff's 'Tarentelle,' Op. 84, No. 12—played with brilliancy and unity of feeling by Miss Hopekirk and Miss Ockleston. Mr. Santley was the vocalist on Saturday, and Miss Hope Glen on Monday. The leader on both occasions was M. Sainton. Signor Pezze replaced Signor Piatti, who, we regret to hear, is seriously unwell.

MR. E. AGUILAR recently set to music the rather long poem which gives a name to the first volume published by Miss Christina Rossetti, 'Goblin-Market.' It forms a cantata for treble voices, and is to be brought out by Messrs. Hutchings & Romer. The words have been abridged and adapted by permission of the author.

THE present season of Italian Opera at Her Majesty's Theatre is announced to come to an end this evening. During the past week only repetitions of works already heard have been given. At a morning performance of 'Lohengrin' on Wednesday, Madame Hélène Crosmond undertook the *rôle* of Elsa for the first time. Considered as an initial effort the impersonation was exceedingly creditable and worthy of commendation. Its chief fault was a lack of repose and a tendency to heighten the dramatic situations at the expense of the sweetness and tenderness which constitute the charm of Wagner's heroine. No improvement was noticeable as regards the representatives of the male characters, nor was the general performance by any means free from reproach, numerous slips occurring in the orchestra. Of the concluding benefit performances, as well as of the season in general, we shall say a few words next week.

PROF. SIR HERBERT OAKELEY gave one of his organ recitals at the Class Room, Park Place, Edinburgh, on December 4th, the programme being selected from the works of Corelli, Handel, Mozart, Beethoven, Kowalski, Merkel, Bach, and Mendelssohn.

THE fifty-third season of the Concerts du Conservatoire, Paris, commenced last Sunday week, under the direction of M. Deldevez. The chief feature of the opening concert was the first performance at the Conservatoire of Schumann's Symphony in C. The work being new to the majority of the audience, its reception was somewhat cool, only the second and third movements being fully appreciated. The programme of the concert also included two choruses from 'Israel in Egypt' and a selection from Spontini's 'Fernand Cortez.'

LOUIS DÉSIRÉ BESOZZI, a composer whose works for unaccompanied chorus, especially for male voices, are well known and much esteemed in France, has just died in Paris, at the age of sixty-five.

THE late Henry Hugh Pierson's music to the second part of Goethe's 'Faust' is to be performed shortly at Königsberg and Dresden.

THE South London Choral Association gave a very successful concert at St. James's Hall yesterday week, Dec. 5th, under the direction of their conductor, Mr. Leonard C. Venables. The choir was heard to great advantage in a number of part-songs and choruses; and the programme was relieved by the introduction of vocal and instrumental solos, given by Miss Annie Marriott, Mr. Barton M'Guckin, Mr. Santley, and Mr. Brinley Richards.

A NEW opera, 'Preciosa,' by Signor A. Smareglia, has been produced at Milan. Though not very original, the work is said to give good promise for the composer's future.

BRAHMS's new Sonata for piano and violin, which was performed for the first time by the composer and Herr Hellmesberger at a recent concert at Vienna, is spoken of by the *Signale* as one of the best of his recent works.

M. ÉDOUARD GREGOIR, of Brussels, has just published a new work, entitled 'L'Art Musical en Belgique sous les Règnes de Léopold I. et Léopold II., rois des Belges.'

AT the third concert of the Euterpe Choral Society at Leipzig, on the 18th ult., Schumann's music to Goethe's 'Faust' was given in its entirety.

THE death is reported from Buenos Ayres of Signor Stagno, a tenor whom many will remember as having sung in London some years since.

DRAMA

LYCEUM.—'MERCHANT of VENICE.'
Shakespeare's Comedy having been received with the utmost enthusiasm, will be repeated Every Evening at 8 o'clock until further notice.
SHYLOCK, MR. IRVING; PORTIA, MISS ELLEN TERRY.
MORNING PERFORMANCES of 'The MERCHANT of VENICE.'
To-day (Saturday), December 13th, at 2 o'clock, and on the Seven Following Saturdays, December 20th and 27th, January 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th, and 31st.
SHYLOCK, MR. IRVING; PORTIA, MISS ELLEN TERRY.

Dramatic Gossip.

IN consequence of severe domestic affliction and of illness for which it is in a great measure responsible, Mr. Toole has been unable to play the *rôle* of Serjeant Buzfuz at the "Belford benefit" at the Lyceum or to take any part in the performances at the Folly Theatre. A complete change of bill will accordingly take place at the house last named, at which Mr. Byron will, by special arrangement, appear this evening as Sir Simon Simple in his own drama of 'Not such a Fool as he Looks.' It is permissible to express in these columns a share in the sympathy universally felt for Mr. Toole on account of the loss of a promising and an only son.

THE entertainment at the Lyceum on Wednesday for the benefit of Mr. Belford was noteworthy for the resumption by Mr. Irving of the character of Digby Grant in 'Two Roses,' one of the most popular and meritorious of his impersonations, and for the admirable acting of Mrs. Bancroft as Mrs. Cluppins in the trial scene from 'Pickwick.' The whole performance had exceptional interest, and its result places a sum of more than 1,000*l.* in the hands of a deserving actor.

A WORD of protest against the views upon histrionic art expressed in the current number of *Blackwood* seems necessary. While pronouncing upon Mdlle. Sarah Bernhardt a condemnation so sweeping as leaves her no place in art or in society, and while holding up to reprobation those writers in the press who have spoken in approval of her performances, the author of the paper in *Blackwood* upon dramatic reform is naïve enough to supply the reasons on which his censure is based. He holds that in order to play the heroines of the Shakspearean drama an actress must lead a life congenial to that of the characters she assumes. Now, apart from the fact that the acceptance of a theory like this would dispose for ever of the pretensions of every actress that has trodden the stage, there is the objection that each chief heroine of Shakspeare has an individuality so distinct it is scarcely possible to imagine one woman, in case such views found acceptance, being able to play more than one, or at most two of them. Who can imagine the same actress leading a life congenial to Juliet, Desdemona, Cleopatra, Lady Macbeth, and Cressida? So preposterous, so illogical, and, in the case in which it deals wth the private character of an artist, so unseemly is this paper, it might have been dismissed with silent contempt but for the fact that its appearance in an established magazine which rarely deals with dramatic subjects is likely to mislead those who have not yet commenced to take an interest in theatrical affairs as to the value, or indeed the existence, of the improvement in histrionic art which it has been a pleasant task during recent years to chronicle. It is time, moreover, to resist the attempt, frequently renewed in various periodicals, to proclaim a doctrine of finality in histrionic art so far as regards actresses, and the accompanying effort to sacrifice the future of the stage to the demands of a portentous and augmenting vanity and the pretensions of a respectable though diminishing reputation.

MR. GIBSON has been playing during the past week, at the Park Theatre, Sir Pertinax Macsycophant in 'The Man of the World.'

A LIST of no less than twenty-three pieces is put forward as having been received at the Théâtre de Cluny, at the Matinées of which house it is proposed to give a series of dramas by unknown authors.

'LA FEMME À PAPA' is the title of a *vaudeville* in three acts, by MM. Hennequin and A. Millaud, produced at the Variétés. M. Dupuis plays in this a double *rôle*. Madame Judic is the heroine. Other parts are taken by MM. Germain, Baron, Hamburger, and Didier. The story of the play is neither more decorous nor more simple than that of previous pieces at the same house.

M. TALBOT, of the Comédie Française, is about to give his *représentation de retraite*, when he will play his original character in 'Le Bonhomme Jadis.' The first representation, by Mesdames Favart and Sarah Bernhardt and M. Coquelin, of a new one-act comedy, will also form part of the entertainment.

'ANNE DE KERVILER,' a one-act drama in prose, by M. Ernest Legouvé, produced at the Comédie Française, strikes a note deeper and more nearly tragic than is expected in a one-act piece. The scene of the action is Bressuire, the picturesque and romantic home of the Beaumonts. Two Royalist officers, about to be put to death together by the Republicans, agree, in the absence of a priest, to confess to each other. One owns that he has seduced the wife of a friend, and an exclamation from the wife of the other, who enters at this moment, reveals but too clearly who the friend is. Still the pardon is pronounced, and repeated by dying lips when a Republican bullet has stopped the career of the forgiving husband. MM. Febvre, Worms, and Barré, and Mdlle. Dudlay interpret this piece, the reception of which was successful.

'LES LIONNES PAUVRES' of MM. Émile Augier and Édouard Foussier, first produced in 1858, has been revived at the Vaudeville, with MM. Dupuis and Dieudonné, and Mesdames Pierson, Alexis, and Réjane in the principal *rôles*.

THE death is announced, on the 30th ult., of August Bournouville, the famous Danish dancer and composer of ballets. He was born in 1805, studied at Paris under Vestris in 1824, came out first as solo dancer at the French Opera in 1825, and gained a great reputation in Paris and London until 1830, when the Danish Government recalled him to undertake the direction of the national ballet. He left the stage in 1849. Bournouville has composed a very large number of romantic pieces, in which the entire action is represented by dancers, and these pieces, in their elaborate and poetical character, are not the least original product of the versatile genius of the Danes.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—P. & H.—J. T. W.—F. T. P.—W. P.—S. S.—J. B. M.—received.
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